FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-90-236
Friday
7 December 1990

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-90-236 CONTENTS *7 December 1990*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

- Premier To Send Letter to Bush on Gulf Crisis *[KYODO]* 1
- Kaifu Says Husayn Offer First Step Toward Peace *[KYODO]* 1
- Official Comments on Husayn's 'Apparant Offer' *[KYODO]* 1
- Legislators To Airlift Emergency Aid to USSR *[KYODO]* 1
- Ministry Approves Satellite Link-Up With DPRK *[KYODO]* 2
- Cabinet To Adopt New 5-Year Defense Plan *[KYODO]* 2
- Analysts Comment on Land Tax Reforms Package *[KYODO]* 2
- Firm To Set Up Joint Venture in China *[KYODO]* 3
- Hashimoto Expresses Concern Over Price Hikes *[KYODO]* 3
- Government To Lower Consumer Prices of Wheat *[KYODO]* 3
- Economic Growth Slows in Jul-Sep Quarter *[KYODO]* 3

North Korea

- No Tae-u's 'Splittist Junket' to Moscow Assailed *[Pyongyang Radio]* 4
- Spokesman Says Union To Send Musicians to Seoul *[KCNA]* 5
  - Music Troupe Leaves for Seoul *[KCNA]* 5
- Headquarters of 'Pomminnyon' Formed in Japan *[KCNA]* 6
  - 'Pomminnyon' Declares Agenda *[KCNA]* 6
- Immediate Release of 'Patriots' Demanded *[Pyongyang Radio]* 6
- South's Recent 'Arms Buildup' Criticized *[KCNA]* 8
- Daily Says South Has Become Criminal 'Haunt' *[KCNA]* 8
- NODONG SINMUN on U.S. Role on Peninsula *[KCNA]* 8
- Gorbachev Statement on Working Class Role Noted *[Pyongyang Radio]* 9
- Reception Marks Trade Relations With Cuba *[KCNA]* 9
- Yi Chong-ok Meets Cuban Editor in Pyongyang *[KCNA]* 9
- Kim Yong-nam, Group Return From Cuba *[KCNA]* 9
- Princess Receives O Chin-u During Recent Visit *[Pyongyang Radio]* 9
- Reception Marks Anniversary of Yugoslav Army *[KCNA]* 10
- Officials Attend Romanian Embassy Reception *[KCNA]* 10
- KCNA Reviews 7 Dec Pyongyang Press 10
- Kim Attends Performance To Honor Veterans *[KCNA]* 11
- Yi Chong-ok Attends Youth Work Conference *[KCNA]* 11
- 'Scientific Seminar' on Kim Chong-il Work Held *[KCNA]* 12
- Increase in Heavy Equipment Production Noted *[KCNA]* 12
- NODONG SINMUN Praises Health System *[KCNA]* 12
- Volunteers Upgrade, Expand Magnesite Mine *[KCNA]* 13
- Tongil Street Housing Construction Accelerated *[Pyongyang Radio]* 13

South Korea

- Premiers' Talks Planned for 11-14 December 14
- North Reportedly Planning Special Economic Zones *[SEOUL SINMUN 7 Dec]* 14
- Talk With Soviet Consul General in Seoul *[SINDONG-A Nov]* 15
- Japan Defense Agency Head Arrives for Visit *[YONHAP]* 20
  - Defense Chiefs Stress Cooperation *[YONHAP]* 20
  - Yi Chong-ku Expresses 'Concern' *[KYODO]* 21
- Promised East-Bloc Technology Fails To Arrive *[YONHAP]* 21
- Military To Prepare for North, Regional Threats *[YONHAP]* 21

No Names Kim Tok-chu to Chief Justice Position *[YONHAP]* 21
Chondaehyop Expected To Dominate Student Groups *[SEOUL SINMUN 5 Dec]* 22

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Minister, Delegation Depart for Visit to China *[Rangoon Radio]* 23
PRC Vice Minister, Delegation Depart Rangoon *[Rangoon Radio]* 23
U Ohn Gyaw, Delegation Depart for Vientiane *[Rangoon Radio]* 23
Court Declares 3 NLD Officials 'Abscondees' *[Rangoon Radio]* 23
Khin Nyunt Holds 'Special' News Conference *[Rangoon Radio]* 23

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Ministry Announces Date of Li Peng's Visit *[Kuala Lumpur TV]* 24
Sabah Seeking To Mend Ties With Kuala Lumpur *[Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES 6 Dec]* 24

Cambodia

Heng Samrin, Delegation Return From Laos 6 Dec *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 24
SPK Reports Japanese Communist Party Visit 25
Radio Sums Up Military Activities in 'Past Week' *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 25
Ranariddh Affirms Support for UNSC Document *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 5 Dec]* 26
Sihanouk Group Calls For Pressure on Phnom Penh *[AFP]* 26
VODK Urges Continued Pressure on Vietnam 27
Reasons Behind Phnom Penh's 'Insolence' Revealed *[Radio VODK]* 27
VONADK—Enemy Troops Routed in Kompong Speu 28
Sihanouk Greets Yugoslav National Day *[Radio VONADK]* 28
Khieu Samphan Greets Thai King's Birthday *[Radio VONADK]* 29

Indonesia

Treaty With Australia Said To Uphold Interests *[Jakarta Radio]* 29
Alatas on Timor Gap Treaty, Cambodia Talks *[ANTARA]* 29

Laos

Thai Ambassador Hosts National Day Reception *[KPL]* 30
Phoumi Receives National Day Greetings *[KPL]* 30
Greetings Received From USSR, MPR, DPRK *[KPL]* 30
Vo Chi Cong Presents Decoration to Kaysone *[VNA]* 31
Highest Cambodian Medals Conferred on Leaders *[KPL]* 31
Phoumi Vongvichit Addresses Front Meeting *[KPL]* 31
Donation to Vientiane Security Forces Noted *[Vietiane Radio]* 31
Kaysone Phomvihan Visits Vientiane Factories *[KPL]* 32
Phoumi Vongvichit Attends Acrobatic Shows *[KPL]* 32
Phoumi Vongvichit Greets Thai King on Birthday *[KPL]* 32
Trade Talks Held With Visiting SRV Delegation *[Vientiane Radio]* 32
    Further on Trade Talks *[VNA]* 32
SRV Party-State Group Departs *[Vientiane Radio]* 33
Friendship Delegations Leave for SRV, USSR *[Vientiane Radio]* 33
Protocol on Development Plan Signed With France *[KPL]* 33
Burmese Foreign Ministry Official Arrives *[Vientiane Radio]* 33
    Talks on Common Border Held *[KPL]* 34
Health Minister Discusses Anti-AIDS Measures *[KPL]* 34

Philippines

Probe of Two Clark Air Base Servicemen Urged *[Manila Radio]* 34

IMF Said To Want Economic Program Implemented *[Manila Radio]* 34
Rise in Overseas Workers Remittances Reported *[BUSINESS WORLD 6 Dec]* 34
Aquino Appeals for Calm After Oil Price Hike *[Manila Radio]* 35
Ramos: Contingency Plans in Place for Protests *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 7 Dec]* 35
    More Policemen, Soldiers Deployed *[Manila Radio]* 36
Three Senators Call for Aquino Resignation *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 7 Dec]* 36
'Disarray' in Response to Economic Crisis Viewed *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 7 Dec]* 37
Aquino Said Concerned Over Nueva Ecija Tension *[Manila Radio]* 38
Aquino Approves 72-Hour Truces With All Rebels *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 6 Dec]* 38
Rebels Subject to Arrest During Cease-Fire *[Quezon City Radio]* 39
Antirebel Campaign Said To Displace Thousands *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 6 Dec]* 39
CPP-NPA, Military Clashes' Casualties Noted *[DIYARYO FILIPINO 7 Dec]* 40
Troops Seize Davao NPA Training Camp 6 Dec *[MANILA BULLETIN 7 Dec]* 40
Wescom Said To Clear NPA From Palawan Town *[MANILA BULLETIN 7 Dec]* 41

Thailand

Chatchai Reportedly To Resign To Solve Crisis *[THAI RAT 7 Dec]* 41
Minister Denies Rumors of Upcoming Reshuffle *[Bangkok TV]* 41
Premier Reportedly Holds Meeting With Army Chief *[THE NATION 7 Dec]* 42
SAP Pressures Commerce Minister on Rice Prices *[THE NATION 7 Dec]* 42
    Editorial Criticizes SAP Tactics *[THE NATION 7 Dec]* 43
New Police Unit Targets Drug Trade Bosses *[THE NATION 6 Dec]* 44
Official, Nigerian Envoy on Drug Smuggling Issue *[THE NATION 7 Dec]* 45
Ease in Restrictions on USSR Ties Approved *[BANGKOK POST 5 Dec]* 45
Daily Signs Agreement With SRV Press Agency *[THE NATION 7 Dec]* 46
    Interviews VNA Official *[THE NATION 7 Dec]* 46
Operating Hours of Border With Malaysia Extended *[Radio VOFA]* 47

Vietnam

Further on Spokeswoman's Cambodian Remarks *[VNA]* 47
Eighth National Assembly Session Continues 48
    More on Vo Van Kiet Report *[VNA]* 48
    Communique No. 3 *[Hanoi Radio]* 49
    Session Continues 7 Dec *[Hanoi Radio]* 49
'Article' Views MIA Issue, U.S. Relations *[Hanoi International]* 50
More on Draft Socioeconomic Strategy 50
    Second Installment *[Hanoi Radio]* 50
    Third Installment *[Hanoi Radio]* 54
    Fourth Installment *[Hanoi Radio]* 56
International Conference on Environment Opens 57
    Vo Nguyen Giap Gives Speech *[VNA]* 57
    Do Muoi Addresses Conference *[VNA]* 57
Leader Greets Cuban Counterparts on Anniversary *[VNA]* 58
    Meeting Marks Anniversary *[Hanoi Radio]* 58
EEC Delegation Visits Vietnam *[VNA]* 58
Leaders Greet Thai King on National Day *[Hanoi International]* 58
Dao Duy Tung Attends Su That Celebration *[Hanoi Radio]* 59
Vietnam Investment Bank Holds Conference *[Hanoi Radio]* 59

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Evans Views Possibility of Iraq Hostage Release *[Melbourne International]* 60

Fiji

Ratu Mara: New Zealand Military Aid Not Asked *[Melbourne International]* 60

Japan

Premier To Send Letter to Bush on Gulf Crisis

OW0712104590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0948 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told an opposition party leader Friday that he plans to ask U.S. President George Bush to do everything possible to find a peaceful settlement to the Persian Gulf crisis.

In a meeting with Democratic Socialist Party [DSP] Chairman Keigo Ouchi, Kaifu vowed to make the request in a letter to Bush, a DSP official said.

In the 30-minute meeting with the prime minister, Ouchi called on the government to consider offering food aid to the Soviet Union to deter unrest in the face of shortages of food and consumer items this winter. Kaifu promised to consider the request, but expressed concern that the aid could be diverted to third countries, the official said.

The Foreign Ministry has said it is prepared to offer medical assistance, but that the Soviet Union is not eligible for food aid under Japan's aid program.

According to a Japanese parliamentary group, Soviet ambassador to Japan Lyudvig Chizhov has asked Japan to provide 24 kinds of food and medical supplies, including powdered milk, meat, oil, wheat flour, and antibiotics.

The Sakhalin Friendship Parliamentarians League says it has received from Chizhov a list of the needed food and medical supplies and conveyed it to Kaifu on Tuesday.

Kaifu Says Husayn Offer First Step Toward Peace

OW0712064990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0346 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Friday that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's offer to release all foreigners held in Iraq and Kuwait is the first step toward a solution of the Persian Gulf crisis.

Japan will continue to press for the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the return of the rightful government of Kuwait in order to restore a just peace to the Gulf region, Kaifu said in remarks to reporters. "The Japanese Government wants a fundamental solution, and will do everything possible to help bring it about," Kaifu said.

The prime minister reiterated that international solidarity is the key to restoring peace in the Gulf region.

Meanwhile, Transport Minister Akira Ono told reporters his ministry has asked Japan Airlines to prepare a relief plane and crew to bring Japanese nationals to be released from Iraq back to Japan. Some 280 Japanese hostages and their family members are currently in Iraq.

Official Comments on Husayn's 'Apparant Offer'

OW0612144790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1405 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Japan would welcome Iraqi leader Saddam Husayn's apparent offer Thursday to release all foreign nationals detained in Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait as long as "no conditions are attached," a top Foreign Ministry official said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told reporters that the Iraqi offer appeared to signal a shift toward a more conciliatory stance in the wake of the last-ditch peace efforts being pursued recently by the United States and other countries united against Iraq.

The official noted that the release of all foreigners held hostage by Baghdad would satisfy one of the two major demands contained in the various resolutions passed by the U.N. Security Council in the aftermath of Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait. But he said in reference to the other major demand that Iraq withdraw its forces from Kuwait, "the main cause of this situation must not be forgotten, even if all the hostages are released."

Other officials insisted on the need to gather more information on which to base an accurate analysis before the Foreign Ministry can issue an official comment on the Iraqi leader's statement. One senior official stressed the importance of the release being "prompt and unconditional," indicating that those points were not made clear in President Husayn's remarks.

Legislators To Airlift Emergency Aid to USSR

OW0612123490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1200 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—A group of Japanese parliamentarians will send an emergency airlift of food and medical aid to the Soviet Union in January or February next year, a Japan-Soviet friendship group said Thursday.

Such action will be taken when the Sakhalin Friendship Parliamentarians League visits the Soviet far east island of Sakhalin, League Secretary General Kozo Igarashi told reporters in his office.

Japan Air System (JAS) has offered a plane to transport the aid to Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, the capital of Sakhalin, Igarashi said.

Negotiations on the flight start shortly with the Transport Ministry since the direct route to Sakhalin has not previously been flown, he said.

Igarashi said he relayed to Hokkaido Gov. Masahiro Yokomichi a list of goods which Moscow wants from Japan presented by Soviet Ambassador Lyudvig Chizhov on Thursday.

The governor then said his Hokkaido government is now considering sending emergency aid to the Soviets independently, adding a fact-finding mission will be dispatched to assess what is actually needed.

The Soviet list included 24 kinds of food and medical supplies, including powdered milk, meat, oil, wheat flour, and antibiotics which the Soviets need to tide them over a severe shortage, Igarashi said.

Igarashi's group has promoted friendship with legislators in Sakhalin, located just north of Hokkaido and whose southern section was part of Japanese territory before Japan gave it up following its defeat in World War II in 1945.

Ministry Approves Satellite Link-Up With DPRK

OW0712033490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0300 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 7 KYODO—The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has approved Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co.'s direct satellite communications link-up with Korea, government officials said Friday.

Officials said Japan's giant international telecommunications carrier plans to begin service between Japan and North Korea on December 11.

The new service will include three telephone circuits, one telegraph circuit, and 10 telex circuits, officials said.

Cabinet To Adopt New 5-Year Defense Plan

OW0712122290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1151 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 7 KYODO—Japan will gradually increase its share of the costs of maintaining U.S. Forces in Japan under the new five-year defense plan starting next April, government sources said Friday.

Japan will also buy four airborne warning and control system (AWACS) planes from the United States during the fiscal years 1991-1995 covered by the new defense program, the sources said.

The cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will adopt the new defense plan later this month.

The sources said Japan will pay some 90 billion yen more in the period's final year, fiscal 1995 (starting April 1, 1995), than it does currently.

In the fiscal 1990 budget, Japan shouldered 168 billion yen in base maintenance and personnel costs. If land rents, noise prevention and other peripheral costs are included, Japan's payments to the U.S. Forces reached 440 billion yen.

The U.S. Congress has warned of a reduction in the size of the 49,500-strong U.S. Forces in Japan unless the Japanese Government shoulders more of the costs of their deployment.

Japan will soon inform the United States of its plan to take on a larger part of the expenses, the sources said.

Besides its call for a greater Japanese share of the maintenance of U.S. Forces, Washington has urged Japan to purchase AWACS planes, which it says are vital to Japan's defense of its sea lanes.

Japan has committed itself to the defense of sea lanes out to 1,000 nautical miles.

Four AWACS aircraft will cost Japan a total of 120 billion yen. Since the purchase will push up Japan's total defense spending, the government is considering slowing down the growth in purchases of front-line equipment like tanks, destroyers and fighters, government sources said.

Japan's fiscal 1990 defense budget totaled 4,159.3 billion yen, up 6.1 percent from a year earlier.

Analysts Comment on Land Tax Reforms Package

OW0612152590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1417 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 6 KYODO—Political dissent within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has diluted substantially the content of the party-approved package plan of land tax reforms aimed at dampening Japan's sky-high land prices, analysts said Thursday.

Analysts say such speculation reflects deep-seated concern among LDP members, mainly caused by a crushing LDP defeat in the House of Councilors election in July 1989.

The major political controversy in the election was a government-proposed consumption tax, which came into effect four months before the election.

LDP members are understood to be seriously concerned that a drastic tax hike might hurt the party's performance in local elections next April.

The LDP gave its official approval on Thursday to the package of land tax reform plans including a controversial new tax on land ownership.

The package was drawn up by the party's tax system research council, which met earlier in the day to put the finishing touches to the proposed new tax, tentatively called the Land Holding Tax, which is the key element in proposed land tax reforms.

The proposal finally approved is considerably modest compared with the original plan, submitted Monday by Masajuro Shiokawa, the council's chairman, who suggested a 0.5 percent tax rate and a 500 million yen floor. Shiokawa modified his proposal later, in the face of stiff opposition within the LDP. Analysts also called it too conservative to put a substantial damper on Japan's sky-high land prices.

The new tax, to be reviewed every five years, will also be weakened by a number of exemptions, in which residential lots of 1,000 square meters or less owned by private citizens will be exempt, as will farmland, except for that not used for farm production.

Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, a senior member of the LDP, also expressed anxiety over the original plan, saying most Japanese people could find the new tax a burden.

The analysts said Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and other party executives recognized that if the LDP approved the original plan, the party would commit the same error as it did in the 1989 election of the upper house.

Firm To Set Up Joint Venture in China

OW0612141090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1347 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Osaka, Dec. 6 KYODO—Toyo Umpanki Co. on Thursday announced an agreement with Anhui forklift truck works to set up a joint venture in China to produce balance weights, heavy iron castings used to maintain the balance of forklifts.

Toyo Umpanki is the first Japanese forklift production firm to set up a joint iron casting venture overseas.

The joint firm, named Anhui An Dong Foundry Co., will be capitalized at 20 million yuan, of which 40 percent will be provided by Toyo Umpanki, 15 percent by two other Japanese firms, and the remaining 45 percent by two Chinese companies, including Anhui forklift truck works.

Under present plans, the joint firm will start production of balance weights in January 1992 at an annual rate of 6,000 tons, with 70 percent of the output to be purchased by Toyo Umpanki.

Hashimoto Expresses Concern Over Price Hikes

OW0712103790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0546 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 7 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said Friday the recent upward moves of prices are "very delicate" and he will keep a close watch on their further course.

Speaking at a press conference after the morning cabinet meeting, Hashimoto said he is paying close attention to rising prices, in relation to climbing crude oil prices and increases in fresh food prices resulting from abnormal weather, as well as the tightening labor market in Japan.

Hashimoto, however, said he does not think the inflation situation is serious yet, and there is no immediate need to change policies on prices. He also said he will propose a bill on land tax reforms to the Diet based on a new land tax program submitted Thursday by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), aimed at curbing high land prices. A new land holding tax would help control soaring land prices and thus work to solve the problem of congestion of land use in large urban areas, he said.

Asked whether the LDP program was less radical than expected, Hashimoto said opinions on that may differ according to the positions of people concerned.

Criticisms have been made that the LDP's program is not radical enough to solve the nation's land problems.

Government To Lower Consumer Prices of Wheat

OW0512085990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0822 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 5 KYODO—The government plans to lower consumer prices of wheat by an average 3-5 percent in February next year, sources in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said Wednesday.

The sources said the Finance Ministry, concerned over a growing deficit in the government's special food control account, has objected to the Agriculture Ministry's plan to reduce wheat prices by an average 10 percent.

A 3-5 percent price cut is likely to be agreed on in negotiations between the two ministries, the sources said. The Agriculture Ministry plans to seek a recommendation from its advisory panel around December 20, they said.

The sources noted Japan's consumer wheat prices - the prices at which the government sells wheat to consumers - are more than two times higher than international market prices.

Economic Growth Slows in Jul-Sep Quarter

OW0412094490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0916 GMT 4 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—Japan's economic growth further slowed in the July-September quarter from the previous three months, but still remained firm helped by healthy domestic demand, the government said Tuesday.

The nation's gross national product (GNP) posted an inflation-adjusted 1.0 percent quarter-to-quarter increase, which translates into an annualized 4.1 percent, the Economic Planning Agency [EPA] said. The GNP grew 1.4 percent in the April-June period from the preceding quarter for an annualized growth pace of 5.5 percent.

According to EPA officials, the slowdown in the latest figure from the previous quarter is due mainly to an easing in the pace of growth of domestic demand, which contributed 0.9 percent to the total GNP growth compared with 2.2 percent in the previous quarter. They pointed out that the growth in consumer spending slackened to 0.4 percent from 1.6 percent in the previous quarter, while that of private-sector capital investment slipped to 1.8 percent from 3.0 percent.

The contribution of external demand was 0.1 percent compared with a negative figure of 0.9 percent in the previous period, but this was not sufficient to cover the slowdown in the growth of domestic demand.

The agency's vice minister, Shinyasu Yoshino, termed the pace of growth "desirable." He said the pace of growth of the nation's economy has been "too rapid" in recent months, but the effects of rises in the official discount rate are definitely showing.

The bank of Japan raised the key rate by 0.75 percentage point to 6 percent per annum, August 30, the fifth hike since May 1989, in a move to stem growing inflationary pressures.

He said the Middle East crisis has not yet had a negative effect on Japan's economy, although there is growing "uncertainty" over the future course of the economy.

With the latest quarterly GNP figure, the EPA officials said Japan will achieve the government's target of 4.0 percent growth in fiscal 1990, ending next March 31.

Among items contributing to domestic demand in the third quarter, private housing showed strong growth of 6.0 percent, compared with 5.2 percent in the previous three months.

Private-sector inventory dropped by 420 billion yen, reflecting strong demand. The corresponding figure in the previous quarter was a 1.17 trillion yen increase.

Exports fell by 4.7 percent from the previous quarter, and imports were down 5.2 percent.

The ratio of the nation's current account surplus to the nominal GNP declined to 1.0 percent from 1.2 percent in the previous quarter.

Year-on-year inflation, as measured by the GNP deflator, rose by 1.9 percent in the July-September period from 1.8 percent in the previous quarter.

North Korea

No Tae-u's 'Splittist Junket' to Moscow Assailed

SK0712003790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2122 GMT 6 Dec 90

[NODONG SINMUN 7 December commentary: "A Splittist's Junket"]

[Text] Although the unprecedented scandal between the Soviet Union and South Korea last September—the two countries sold and bought their diplomatic relations with dollars—is still vivid in the minds of the people of the world, South Korea's No Tae-u is reported to be making a junket to the Soviet Union in mid-December by accepting an invitation.

Even when there were no diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and South Korea, No Tae-u, free from shame, met with the person in highest authority in the Soviet Union in the United States, a distant land across the ocean. So, there is nothing to be surprised about his trip to the Soviet Union, nor is there anything strange about it.

No Tae-u's junket to the Soviet Union this time cannot be construed other than as an essentially toadyist, nation-selling, and splittist junket and as part of a naked antipeace, antireunification, and anti-Republic maneuvers.

In a press conference held in connection with his Soviet visit, No Tae-u said that he will have an in-depth discussion over issues of peace and security on the Korean peninsula and that he will provide a turning point for peace and security in Korea during his visit.

The North-South High-Level Talks, whose aim is to bring an end to the 45-year history of division and to open a path leading to peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula, are now on the calendar amid the great concern and expectation of the people at home and abroad.

This being the case, the North and South should, as a matter of course, make sincere efforts to make these talks a success if they are to remove the danger of war and provide durable peace in Korea. This is the unanimous desire of the 70 million Korean countrymen. This is also what the peace-loving people of the world seek.

As is widely known, at the North-South High-Level Talks we have put forward a series of realistic proposals, including the issue of adopting a nonaggression declaration, in order to provide a guarantee for peace on the Korean peninsula.

The persons in authority in South Korea, however, would not accept our practical proposals for peace. What is more, as demonstrated by the recent developments, not only do they insist on keeping U.S. troops and nuclear weapons, but they also stated that they would even continue the Team Spirit joint military exercise as in the past, while attempting to build up military forces on a large scale.

He said he will discuss peace and security on the Korean peninsula by sitting face to face with someone else by traveling outside instead of demonstrating sincerity at the North-South talks. How can this be reasonable?

One important objective he is seeking in his Soviet junket is to realize South Korea's unilateral entry into the United Nations by winning Soviet support.

In a press conference prior to his Soviet trip, No Tae-u himself did not conceal the intention to push for unilateral entry into the United Nations if favorable conditions are created at home and abroad.

When even diplomatic relations are bought and sold with money, can one not create the conditions for unilateral entry into the United Nations?

The issue on measures for the United Nations is being put forward at the North-South High-Level Talks as a pending question which should be resolved urgently. At this moment, the act of going outside the country on the issue of UN measures and of desperately insisting on unilateral entry instead of striving to resolve this issue between the North and South, the relevant parties, must be regarded as a deliberate attempt to nullify the North-South dialogue without paying any attention to reunification.

With the approach of his junket, No Tae-u said that he will cooperate with someone else in leading us to opening and reform while raving about a so-called great trend of reform in the global order. This is an undisguised demonstration of nation-selling flunkeyism designed to realize the dream of reunification through victory over the communists, which was ruined a long time ago, by relying on outside forces.

In other words, they are attempting to overthrow the socialist system in the northern half of the Republic and to extend their system into the North by infusing the wind of freedom into the North according to the imperialists' antisocialist strategy of peaceful transition.

This clearly shows that the South Korean authorities, together with the Soviet Union, are attempting to push for the formation of tripartite relations of collusion in full scale among the United States, the Soviet Union, and South Korea against us according to the basic Korean strategy of the United States.

At the present time, No Tae-u is suffering a serious crisis due to the people's antigovernment struggle. He is, in actuality, not in the position of stepping out of domestic affairs because of deepened internal struggles. Despite all this, he is going to embark on a junket to the Soviet Union when the year is nearing its end.

Kim Tae-chung, president of the Party for Peace and Democracy in South Korea, stated that he does not understand why No Tae-u is obstinately going to the Soviet Union at the end of the year, when there are numerous domestic problems to be resolved and the Soviet situation is terrible. This is no accident.

No Tae-u is attempting to seek a way out of a serious political and economic crisis and to realize the ambition for long-term power by carrying a big country called the Soviet Union on his back and by improving his image.

The successive South Korean rulers in the past ran amok to maintain their life as stooges for the masters' divisive policy, being embraced in the bosom of the United States. The present South Korean rulers are attempting to realize their separatist aims by dragging in another big country.

No Tae-u's Soviet junket will further increase the indelible sins that have been committed before history and the nation, and will only expedite his own isolation and downfall.

Spokesman Says Union To Send Musicians to Seoul

SK0612121190 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1059 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—The spokesman for the Central Committee of the Korean Musicians Union was interviewed today by a KCNA reporter on the participation of the Pyongyang national musical troupe in the "traditional concert for reunification seeing 1990 out" slated from December 8 in Seoul.

The spokesman said:

With the concert for reunification at hand, the South Korean authorities arrested on the charge of the violation of the "National Security Law" the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters of the pan-national rally when they returned to South Korea after participating in the tripartite working-level talks for the formation of the pan-national alliance for reunification held in Berlin. This has greatly disappointed our artists. In this connection, the Central Committee of the Korean Musicians Union urges the South Korean authorities to release the illegally arrested patriotic champions of reunification at an early date. It could not but clarify its stand of reconsidering the matter of participating in the concert for reunification because the concert does not suit the horrible atmosphere of Seoul where reunification champions are arrested indiscriminately.

However, the Central Committee of the Korean Musicians Union decided to send the Pyongyang national musical troupe to the "traditional concert for reunification seeing 1990 out" due in Seoul as scheduled from the stand of subordinating all to the nationwide cause of reunification, taking into consideration the fact that all the fellow countrymen now hope the concert for reunification arranged as a non-governmental-level music festival will be held successfully to contribute to promoting national reconciliation, unity and reunification and that our musicians were invited to it by a non-government musical organization, noted the spokesman.

Music Troupe Leaves for Seoul

SK0712051690 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0440 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 7 (KCNA)—The members of the Pyongyang national musical troupe left here on the morning of December 7 to attend the "traditional concert for reunification seeing 1990 out" due in Seoul.

The 33 member troupe is headed by Song Tong-chun, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Musicians Union.

It was seen off by Yun Ki-pok, vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland; Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK; officials concerned, artistes and working people in the city.

Headquarters of 'Pomminnyon' Formed in Japan

SK0712052090 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0432 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo December 5 (KNS-KCNA)—The headquarters of Koreans in Japan of the Pan-National Alliance for Reunification (Pomminnyon) was formed at a meeting in Tokyo on December 3.

Delegate Kim Chong-su delivered a report.

The emergence of Pomminnyon opened a broad avenue in uniting all the reunification patriotic forces who have been active in the North, the South and overseas into one organisation and in strengthening the motive force, a decisive factor of achieving the cause of reunification, the reporter said, and continued:

With the formation of the headquarters, the struggle of the Korean residents in Japan to achieve the cause of reunification will be further strengthened irrespective of differences in ideology, ideal and affiliation, and their organisational solidarity with the reunification forces in the North, the South and overseas be intensified still further.

The headquarters will strive for the rescue of the illegally arrested delegates of the South side who had participated in the Berlin tripartite working-level talks and for the release of all the reunification, patriotic figures including woman student Yim Su-kyong, the "flower of reunification".

We can never allow all the splittist schemes such as "unity of systems" and "separate entry into the United Nations" and completely check and frustrate them.

Yim Min-sik, secretary general of Pomminnyon, and So Man-sul, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and co-chairman of Pomminnyon, made congratulatory speeches.

The meeting adopted a resolution and a statement denouncing the South Korean authorities' fascist outrage of illegally arresting delegates of the South side who had participated in the Berlin tripartite working-level talks of Pomminnyon.

Kim Chong-su was elected chairman of the headquarters of Koreans in Japan of Pomminnyon.

'Pomminnyon' Declares Agenda

SK0712115590 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1009 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Tokyo December 5 (KNS-KCNA)—A resolution was adopted at the inaugural meeting of the Headquarters of Korean Residents in Japan of the Pan-national Alliance for Reunification (Pomminnyon).

The resolution says:

We will more staunchly fight for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea, for disarmament between the North and the South, the dismantlement of the concrete wall and abrogation of the antireunification legal devices such as the "National Security Law" and to check and frustrate all the divisive moves including "separate entry into the United Nations".

We fully support reunification through confederation, the only just way of achieving a peaceful reunification without one side conquering the other or being conquered under the conditions where there really exist different ideas and systems in the in the North and the South, and will make every possible effort to realize widerange dialogues for reunification involving all parties, groupings and all strata in the north, south and overseas.

We will make all efforts to rapidly strengthen the motive force of the reunification by achieving great national unity of all the fellow countrymen in the North, South and overseas irrespective of differences in ideology, idea, party affiliation and residence, rendering solidarity and support to each other and taking a joint step in our movement.

Immediate Release of 'Patriots' Demanded

SK0712104690 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 0022 GMT 6 Dec 90

[NODONG SINMUN 7 December commentary: "Set Free the Patriots Aspiring Toward Reunification Without Delay"]

[Text] Broad social sectors and people from all walks of life in South Korea are now strongly raising their voices denouncing the No Tae-u puppet clique for having arrested and taken into custody the South side's delegates to the Berlin tripartite meeting which was held to form the pan-national union for national reunification. They had been arrested on charges of violating the National Security Law and calling for the immediate release of the patriots aspiring toward reunification.

On the day the patriots aspiring toward reunification were arrested, the South side's committee for the promotion of the pan-national conference, in a report meeting held on the campus of Yonsei University to welcome the delegates to the Berlin meeting for national reunification, branded and denounced the No Tae-u ring's arrest of the delegates as an expression of the current regime's antireunification nature. Even the National Teachers Union of South Korea condemned it as pouring cold water on the maturing effort for reunification.

The same day, about 30 people, including the standing chairman of the National Democratic Alliance of Korea [Chonminnyon], staged a sit-in at the office to protest the arrest of the delegates of the South side's promotion committee, and they continued the sit-in throughout the night, saying that they could hardly suppress their indignation over their arrest. These people demanded that those who have been taken to the police stations simply because they called for reunification must be set free without conditions on the ground that the government is the sole channel for reunification dialogue. They argued that the puppet clique's blocking the independent effort of the civilians for reunification makes them question whether the current regime wants reunification or not.

Meanwhile, on 4 December the National Union for Smashing the Democratic Justice Party's One-Party Dictatorship and Winning Basic Rights for the Masses [Kungming Yonhap] of South Korea released a statement calling for the immediate release of the patriots aspiring for reunification, saying that the current regime's taking into custody the delegates making an effort for national reunification on charges of violating the National Security Law has only exposed the fact that the clique's babbling about free travel between the North and South is untrue.

It is, therefore, only natural for the people from all walks of life in South Korea to claim the innocence of the delegates of the South side's headquarters for the promotion of the pan-national conference and strongly call for their immediate release.

As is known, in the Berlin tripartite meeting with the delegates of the North side's preparatory committee for pan-national meeting and the overseas promotion headquarters, the South side's delegates discussed practical measures for the formation of the pan-national union for national reunification, a nationwide consultative body for reunification, with an eye to hastening the realization of national reunification, the nation's longstanding desire, by uniting the reunification-aspiring forces in the North, South, and abroad.

As is stated in the joint declaration announced at the end of the Berlin tripartite meeting, the pan-national union for national reunification will perform the function of an organization to guarantee the popularization of the future reunification movement and its unity.

This is why one of the South side's delegates proudly said, upon arriving at Kimpo Airport, that the North and South create miracles when they meet each other.

All the fellow countrymen are now renewing their determination to launch the reunification movement more vigorously by uniting firmly around the pan-national union, while unanimously rejoicing over the agreement reached at the Berlin tripartite meeting on forming a pan-national union for national reunification, with the fellow countrymen at home and abroad lined up behind it.

What the South side's delegates have done deserves praise from all the fellow countrymen, instead of being regarded as a crime. Only those who flatly refuse dialogue and reunification and pursue confrontation and division can brand them as criminals.

Various forms of talks, including the North-South High-Level Talks, are under way between the North and South. Before long, artists from the North and South will hold the 1990 year-end traditional music concert for reunification in Seoul. Precisely at such a moment, the South Korean puppets have arrested and taken into custody the patriots who have returned home after discussing the reunification question abroad. This cannot be construed in any other way than as an attempt to destroy the atmosphere for national reconciliation and unity and lay artificial obstacles to the future North-South dialogue.

The South Korean ruling bunch charged that the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters contacted us without obtaining their permission. This is utterly preposterous.

The cause of national reunification is a pan-national cause aimed at realizing national independence and all the Korean fellow countrymen are the driving force behind reunification.

When the Korean compatriots in the North, the South, and abroad want to meet with each other for reunification, they do not need anybody else's permission.

The beastly, inhuman act by the South Korean ruling bunch that plucked the patriots who tried for reunification from the airport in broad daylight simply because they had contacted us has once again demonstrated the South Korean ruling bunch—which not only monopolizes dialogue, but also puts it to bad use for splittist purposes—has become fearful in the face of the developing civilian-level talks.

Although the South Korean puppets are trying to thwart reunification of the country by monopolizing dialogue, it is a miscalculation. Nothing on earth can keep the entire nation from rising in a struggle to settle the question of national reunification, the nation's longstanding desire.

If the persons in authority in South Korea are genuinely willing to have talks with us and settle the reunification question, they should look squarely at the trends of the times even now, refrain from interfering in the reunification debates among people from all walks of life, and release the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters for the pan-national meeting and all of the patriots aspiring toward reunification, including Yim Su-kyong and Mun Kyu-hyon, without delay and without preconditions.

The future of the North-South talks and the development of North-South relations depend on what attitude the persons in authority in South Korea will adopt.

Together with the patriotic forces aspiring for reunification at home and abroad, we will closely watch to see what kind of attitude the South Korean ruling bunch will adopt.

If the South Korean puppets continually cling to their suppressive maneuvers against the patriots aspiring toward reunification by turning their backs on the unanimous desire and demand of the entire fellow countrymen, history and people will never condone them.

South's Recent 'Arms Buildup' Criticized

SK0712110090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 7 Dec 90

["Another Move for Arms Buildup"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 7 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON in a commentary today brands the South Korean puppets' recent decision to designate Lockheed-made P-3C as their naval sea patrol plane as one more move for arms buildup aimed at further accelerating preparations for a war against the North, as an act of going against our people's desire for detente and peace.

The news analyst says:

Although dialogue is under way between the North and the South to find a solution to such urgent questions as the removal of the political and military confrontation the puppets are putting spurs on the arms buildup. This only spoils the atmosphere of dialogue.

The South Korean puppets talk volubly about "confidence-building" and "relaxation of tensions" and behave as if they were interested in "peace" and reunification" when they are at the negotiating table with us, but they seek, in actuality, to ignite a war against the North, following the U.S. imperialists' policy of war.

If they really set store by North-South dialogue and want peace and reunification of the country, they must immediatey stop their reckless war preparations and respond at an early date to our peace proposal.

We are closely following their belligerent rash acts.

Daily Says South Has Become Criminal 'Haunt'

SK0712053590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 7 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today notes that after the No Tae-u group declared a "war against crimes" South Korea has turned further into a big haunt of criminals.

Saying that the bosses of the Yamaguchi group", the biggest terrorist organisation in Japan, and other bandits are swarming into South Korea one on the heels of the other recently, the news analyst continues:

Foreign press reports say foreign gangsters flew in there to swap "experiences" with South Korean gangs. In short, they went to South Korea to learn from the "experience" of those in South Korea where the gangsters are not wiped out, but are getting all the more rampant after the declaration of the "war against crimes."

As is already known, the No Tae-u fascist clique are hell bent only on suppression of the patriotic democratic forces which call for independence, democracy and national reunification, instead of wiping out wicked criminals and ruffians after declaring the "war against crimes."

No Tae-u's riffraff like "national assemblymen from the Democratic Liberal Party" and the "Chongwadae chief secretary of civil administration" are putting pressure upon the police to set free the arrested bosses of terrorist organisations and criminals who embezzled billions of money.

It is not difficult to imagine what a lawless land South Korea has turned into, where the U.S. imperialist aggressors are committing all kinds of atrocities, lording it over, and the ruffians are getting rampant under the patronage of the puppet clique and now foreign gangsters are swarming there.

With the No Tae-u military fascist clique left intact in South Korea the crimes can never be uprooted.

NODONG SINMUN on U.S. Role on Peninsula

SK0612121290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT 6 Dec 90

["Korean People's Cause of Reunification Cannot Be Fooled by Outside Forces"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today says that the Korean people's cause of reunification should not be fooled by the U.S. imperialists, the outside forces.

Noting that at a time when all the fellow countrymen are making efforts for national reunification with a clear vision of the goal of achieving reunification in the 1990s the inter-Korean high-level talks have not yielded any results to speak of and it is because the master-and-servant relations between the United States and South Korea have an effect on the talks, it continues:

At the inter-Korean high-level talks the South side's delegates are dancing to the tune of the United States, without independence.

The South side is doggedly insisting on the legalisation of the division through agreement between the North and the South clamouring about the "recognition of entity"; it is does so in compliance with the demand of the United States which seeks to create "two Koreas" and continue its policy of occupying South Korea. The South side is drivelling that such essential matters as removing the political and military confrontation between the North and the South should be shelved and stubbornly objects to taking practical steps such as a halt to the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and disarmament. This mirrors the will of the United States to aggravate the tensions on the Korean peninsula and to keep and increase its troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea under that pretext. At the second round of the inter-Korean high-level talks the South side said that it had no different views as regards the content of a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South proposed by the North side, but avoided signing it, talking about "procedures," "permission" and the like. In the long run, this cannot be construed otherwise than that the South side did so because the adoption of a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South is contrary to the aggressive strategy of the United States to invade the North and it failed to get a "permission" from the U.S. master.

The South side's lot is miserable; it has to act under the baton of others and read their mind without independence at the talks where the internal affairs of the nation are discussed.

After all, the inter-Korean high-level talks has not reached an agreement on the measures favorable to the settlement of the questions of peace in the country and its reunification because of the anti-national manoeuvrings of the U.S. imperialists who are seeking a permanent domination over South Korea and of their puppets.

The United States, the very one that divided Korea, must feel its responsibility for it, take hands of aggression and interference off South Korea and refrain from obstructing the reunification of Korea.

Gorbachev Statement on Working Class Role Noted

SK0612093790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] According to TASS, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev delivered a speech at a meeting of the representatives of the Moscow Municipal party opened on 29 November in the capital city of the Soviet Union.

In his speech, he said that the party was in a state of shock and (?was trapped in trenches) and then admitted that the party's defeat had been caused by the CPSU leadership's underestimation of the working class's role.

He said that he was seeing a way out of the present crisis in uniting society and in strengthening such state institutions as the Army and law enforcement institutions.

Reception Marks Trade Relations With Cuba

SK0512112290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 5 (KCNA)—The Ministry of External Economic Affairs arranged a film show and a reception today on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the economic and trade relations between the DPRK and the Republic of Cuba.

Present there on invitation were charge d'affaires ad interim Javier Perez and officials of the Cuban Embassy here and Cuban visitors.

Minister of External Economic Affairs Chong Song-nam, Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Ku Pon-tae and other officials concerned were present.

They first saw a Korean film.

Then followed a friendly reception at which speeches were exchanged.

Yi Chong-ok Meets Cuban Editor in Pyongyang

SK0412110990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 4 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 4 (KCNA)—Vice-President Yi Chong-ok today met and had a friendly conversation with Caridad Miranda, director of the Cuban magazine BOHEMIA, at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

Present on the occasion were An Bok-man, deputy editor-in-chief of MINJU CHOSON, and Javier Perez, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Cuban embassy here.

Referring to the marvellous successes made by the Korean people in the socialist construction, the director noted that all the achievements are the result of the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea.

He wished President Kim Il-song a long life in good health.

Kim Yong-nam, Group Return From Cuba

SK0612121990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and his party flew back home today from a visit to Cuba.

They were met at the airport by Kang Sok-chu, first vice-minister of foreign affairs, and Javier Perez, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Cuban Embassy here.

Princess Receives O Chin-u During Recent Visit

SK0612021590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 4 Dec 90

[Text] Princess (Mahachakri Sirindon) of the Kingdom of Thailand met our country's military delegation headed by Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces, which is on a visit to Thailand, on 3 December at the Royal Palace.

Conversation during the meeting flowed amid a warm atmosphere.

Attending the meeting were deputy commander of the Thai Armed Forces Supreme Headquarters and our country's trade representative to Thailand.

Reception Marks Anniversary of Yugoslav Army

SK0612115090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1104 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—Tomislav Simunovic, military attache of the Yugoslav Embassy here, arranged a cocktail party today on the occasion of the 49th anniversary of the founding of the Yugoslav People's Army.

Present there on invitation were general of the Korean People's Army [KPA] Chon Mun-sop and other KPA generals and officers and military attaches of different embassies here.

Also on hand was charge d'affaires ad interim of the Yugoslav Embassy here.

Speeches were made at the cocktail party.

Officials Attend Romanian Embassy Reception

SK0212113290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0803 GMT 2 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 2 (KCNA)—Romanian Ambassador to Korea Aureliu Ioan Lazar gave a reception at the Okryu restaurant Saturday evening on the occasion of the national day of Romania.

Invited were Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries; Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs; General of the Korean People's Army Kim Pong-yul; Yi In-kyu, vice-minister of foreign affairs; and other officials concerned and diplomatic envoys of various countries here.

Speeches were exchanged at the reception that proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

KCNA Reviews 7 Dec Pyongyang Press

SK0712053090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 7 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry reports that the great leader President Kim Il-song Thursday saw a national art circle performance of honored disabled soldiers and received performers, and a photograph he posed for with them.

Printed in the press is a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny on the national day of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire.

Edited in the press are repercussion evoked upon officials and working people by the reply of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il to the letter of the party members of the Second Cell of the Fifth Department of the Korean Central News Agency and reports about a vigorous campaign by party members and other working people throughout the country to follow the example of their loyalty.

A scientific seminar on "On Improving and Strengthening Financial Affairs and Banking," a work of Comrade Kim Chong-il, was held, says the press.

MINJU CHOSON reports that some 140 revolutionary slogan-bearing trees and many relics and remains dating back to the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle were discovered in the area of Sinhung County, South Hamgyong Province.

Spotlighted in the press is news that a joint meeting of employees of the Songchon mine and officials of organs, factories and enterprises concerned in South Pyongan Province was held to remarkably increase non-ferrous metal ore production in hearty response to the militant call of the party.

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary titled "Splittist's Trip" in connection with No Tae-u's Soviet trip scheduled in mid-December.

Econews of the press includes reports about the fulfilment of the yearly plans at industrial establishments.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article headlined "Most Superior, Man-Centered Health System of Our Country".

Conveyed in the daily are voices of foreign political and public figures highly praising the Workers' Party of Korea for its service to the people.

A news analyst of NODONG SINMUN says South Korea has turned into a big haunt of criminals with its door opened even for gangsters from abroad.

Commenting on the No Tae-u group's recent decision to choose P-3C produced by the Lockheed Company of the United States as naval sea patrol planes to be deployed in South Korea, MINJU CHOSON brands this as a new move for arms buildup.

Given in the press is an account of an interview of a KCNA reporter with a spokesman for the central committee of the Korean Musicians Union in connection with the participation of the Pyongyang National Musical Troupe in the "traditional concert for reunification seeing 1990 out" slated in Seoul.

The press informs the readers that the inaugural meeting of the headquarters of Koreans in Japan of the Pan-National Alliance for Reunification was held in Tokyo and the meeting adopted a resolution and a statement denouncing the South Korean fascist clique for having arrested the delegates of the South side who had participated in the Berlin tripartite working-level talks.

The South Korean news columns of the press include a report that Chonminnyon and other organizations criticized the South Korean authorities' violation of human rights.

The world public denounced the South Korean authorities for avoiding the signing of a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South, says NODONG SINMUN.

Included in the foreign news columns are reports that Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of China and chairman of the Military Commission of the party Central Committee, called for increasing the combat power of the Army, a congress of the Socialist Party of Chile was held, the 15th meeting of the Presidium of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization was convened in Damascus, the resistance leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization called for intensifying the anti-Israel struggle. NODONG SINMUN introduces economic and cultural news from Cuba. Papers observe the national day of Cote d'Ivoire. NODONG SINMUN analyses the United States' financial crisis and its consequences.

Kim Attends Performance To Honor Veterans

SK0612114290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today saw a national art circle performance of honored disabled soldiers at the February 8 House of Culture.

When he appeared in the theatre amid the playing of the welcome music, stormy cheers of "hurrah!" and a loud applause rocked the it [as received].

President Kim Il-song was presented with a bouquet of fragrant flowers by an honored disabled soldier and wife of an honored disabled soldier.

Seeing performance with him were Comrades O Chin-u, Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol, Yon Hyong-muk, Kye Ung-tae, Han Song-yong, Choe Kwang, Choe Tae-pok, Choe Yong-nim, Hong Song-nam, Kim Pok-sin, Kang Hui-won, Hong Si-hak, Kim Chung-nin, Pak Nam-ki, So Kwan-hi, Yun Ki-pok, Hwang Chang-yop, Kim Hwan, Kim Tal-hyon and Chang Chol; Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA); Yi Kye-paek, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party; Chong Sin-hyok, chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party; members and alternate members of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and deputies to the SPA in Pyongyang, officials of party, central organs and social organisations, generals of the Korean People's Army, model honored disabled soldiers, labor innovators, working people in the city and People's Army soldiers.

Put on the stage was a colourful program including the tale in song "We Live an Optimistic Life," the poem and tale in song "We Will Keep the Flower in Bloom Generation After Generation," the tale in mixed six-member chorus "We are Following the Footsteps of our Fathers", the narration of real story "My Lifelong Wish", and "Let the Flag of the Republic Fly High."

The performers impressively showed the worthy and happy life of the honored disabled soldiers and their wives who are keeping the flower of revolution in bloom, always overflowing with confidence and optimism under the care of the great leader and our party and their firm will to walk the road of allegiance following the party forever in the heroic fighting spirit they displayed in the fatherland liberation war.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience for its high ideological and artistic plane.

President Kim Il-song congratulated the art circle members of honored disabled soldiers on their successful performance and posed for a photograph with them.

Yi Chong-ok Attends Youth Work Conference

SK0612063090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—The second national conference of vanguard youth in invention and rationalization took place in Pyongyang on December 4 and 5.

It reviewed successes and experiences made in the second-stage work of "scientific and technological campaign of young men" and discussed how to increase the vanguard role of the young people in the efforts to implement the party's policy on technical revolution by conducting a dynamic scientific and technological campaign in keeping with the requirements of the developing reality.

Present there were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, and other officials concerned.

Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth (LSWY), delivered a report, which was followed by speeches.

The reporter and speakers pointed out that dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, with a deep penetration into the worldwide trend of the scientific and technological development and into the role of youths in the implementation of technical revolution, wisely led the LSWY organisations and youths so that they could play the vanguard role in the efforts to develop sciences and technologies of the country.

Referring to the achievements made during the scientific and technological campaign, they said they were, first of all, that members of the LSWY and youths turned out as one man in the implementation of the party's policy on technical revolution.

They were next that a collective technical innovation movement has been vigorously waged among the young people and a large number of active young inventors and contrivers have emerged. More than 8,000 technical innovation proposals have been produced in this period, they added.

Another achievement is that members of the LSWY and youths who were dispatched as three-revolution teams have creditably discharged their vanguard role in carrying out the party's policy of technical revolution, they said, and continued: They produced more than 1,490 robots and 1,700 electronic and automation elements and devices of over 600 kinds in this period.

The reporter and speakers stressed that the LSWY organisations and youths should further enhance their role as the vanguard in accelerating chuche-orientation, modernisation and scientification of the national economy, upholding the party's policy of technical revolution.

A letter of pledge to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was adopted at the conference.

'Scientific Seminar' on Kim Chong-il Work Held

SK0612122090 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1026 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—A scientific seminar on "On Improving and Strengthening Financial Affairs and Banking," a work of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, was held at the Grand People's Study House Thursday.

Present at the seminar were Choe Yong-nim, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier of the Administration Council, and officials concerned.

The speakers said the work gives exposition of the essence and duty of socialist finance, the principles and methods which should be maintained in the management of finance and the tasks and ways of improving financial affairs and banking by embodying the chuche idea.

Expounded in the work, they noted, are theories of making the socialist finance and banking serve the popular masses including the theories of increasing the source of income for bettering the people's living, putting funds to best use for the sake of the people, improving the standard of the people's living by consolidating monetary circulation.

The work gives answers to the questions of properly setting up state budget and carrying it through, improving the management of finance at factories and enterprises, strengthening financial summing-up and control and other theoretical and practical questions arising in the socialist financial affairs and banking, they stressed, adding that the achievements gained in our financial affairs and banking and socialist construction prove the justness and vitality of the ideas and theories laid down in the work.

Increase in Heavy Equipment Production Noted

SK0712111690 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1013 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 7 (KCNA)—The production of ordered eqiupment is being stepped up in Korea.

The Taean Heavy Machine Complex, the Nakwon Machine Compex, the General Bureau of Yongsong Machine Industries, the Korean General Machine Corporation and other industrial establishments under the Ministry of Machine Industry produced 8,600 sets of important ordered equipment for nearly 30 construction sites this year.

With the successful production of ordered equipment, the 800 kilometre-long water channel project in western area, the construction of the Wiwon Power Station, the lime kiln No. 1 of the Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer Complex and the production process of the ball ore calciner of the Chongjin Steel Works have been completed and the expansion project of the Musan Mining Complex, the construction of the December 5 thermal power plant and the housing construction for 50,000 families in Pyongyang have been accelerated at a fast speed.

The Taean Heavy Machine Complex produced over 1,980 sets of ordered equipment including a 50 ton overhead crane for the Musan Mining Complex, a 75 ton boiler and a large-electromotor and transformer for the December 5 thermal power plant.

The General Bureau of Yongsong Machine Industries produced 820 sets of ordered equipment such as 200,000 cubic metre blowers and 40,000 cubic metre centrifugal compressors and sent them to the construction sites of the Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer Complex and the Tanchon Phosphate Ammonium Fertilizer Factory. The Ministry of Machine Industry is launching a final drive to carry out its yearly assignment for the production of ordered equipment.

NODONG SINMUN Praises Health System

SK0712111890 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1025 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 7 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a by-lined article entitled "Most Superior, Man-Centered Health System of Our Country".

It quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"In our system, nothing is more precious than the people. We have to develop our public health services to protect the lives of the people and promote the health of the working people."

Our socialist health system embodying the chuche idea is the most advanced and superior public health system under which man, the most valuable and powerful being in the world, is put on the centre and everything is devoted to his life and health.

Above all, the advantage of our socialist health system is clearly seen in the universal free medical service, a communist policy, which completely and thoroughly ensures working people's right to medical care on the highest pevel.

All members of our society including workers, peasants, armymen, students and working intellectuals have the equal right to enjoy free medical service irrespective of sex, age, residence, occupation, quantity and quality of labour and a special state care is directed to the health of children and pregnant women. The state also takes a good care of the disabled people, chronic patients who have no one to depend upon and aged patients so that they enjoy the benefits of free medical service. This right for all people is guaranteed by the socialist constitution and the public health law.

The right and demand of the working people for medical service is thoroughly realized because the state completely covers all the costs for medical service for the protection of the lives and health of the people in our country.

Under the free medical system everyone in our country enjoys annually additional state benefit equal to his living allowance for two months.

The superiority of our socialist health system is concentrically manifested in the policy of prophylactic medicine to prevent people from falling ill.

The health of all people is always protected under the section doctor system. Everyone receives responsible and systematic help of doctors.

The superiority of the socialist health system is also found in lofty mental and moral traits of the medical workers who devote their all to the lives and health of people. The vitality of the system is clearly proved by remarkable improvement of people's health index. Mortality rate has been decreased systematically and average life expectancy at birth increased. The great change in our health service is the brilliant result of the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Volunteers Upgrade, Expand Magnesite Mine

SK0612121090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—The Taehung General Youth Mining Enterprise situated in the northeastern part of Korea is being turned into a large-scale modern magnesite producer.

Big open-cast and underground cutting faces have been created there.

According to data confirmed through a survey, the ore deposits amount to hundreds of millions of tons and its grades are very high.

In recent years a magnesia clinker branch factory has been built at the enterprise with an annual production capacity of hundreds of thousands of tons.

Multi-stage cutting faces are being built at the Pukdu branch mine whose ore production accounts for more than 50 percent at the enterprise.

At present, the Muhak branch mine and the magnesia branch factory are being reconstructed on an expansion basis at an accelerated pace.

A 400 odd metre shaft linking the open-cast mine on Pukdu Peak to the underground crushing ground of the Muhak branch mine has been driven through and an ore-dropping chute and the crushing ground have been built and put into trial operation.

When this project has been finished the production efficiency of the enterprise will treble.

The construction of a belt conveyor transport line extending more than 2,300 metres with a transport capacity of millions of tons is being stepped up the final stage.

The construction of a wagon tipping site, the expansion project of a vertical kiln and the construction of adcrushing and screening ground and a station ore depot are progressing at a fast speed.

And the construction of cultural and welfare establishments and housing construction are making headway.

The construction of the enterprise is now being pushed forward under the care of the state.

Thousands of demobilized soldiers and young people from different parts of the country have volunteered to work there.

Tongil Street Housing Construction Accelerated

SK0712104090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] The soldier construction workers of the unit to which Comrade Paek Pong-man belongs are vigorously conducting the construction of the dwellings of No. 8-4-12 block in Tongil Street with the burning desire to brilliantly fulfill the party's grand plan of metropolitan construction. Reporter (Pang In-se) of the Central Broadcasting Station met Yi Kwang-chol, chief of the general staff and Pang Kun-chol, staff officer.

[Begin Recording] [(Pang In-se)] I see the soldiers are filled with high revolutionary zeal as they work in this construction site.

[First speaker not specified as Yi Kwang-chol or Pang Kun-chol] Yes, that is right. The soldier builders of our unit to which Comrade Paek Pong-man belongs to are really determined to do the job. Endlessly encouraged by the reply letter of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to the 5th Bureau 2d Cell party members of KCNA, they are effecting innovations everyday in assembling the framework of the 14-storied No. 8-4-12 block dwellings for the 140 families on Tongil Street. The commanding officers and the soldiers are working so hard that they are completing each floor in three days even in winter conditions. The soldier builders are speeding up the pace of the construction ensuring the quality of the construction to the maximum degree so that the building may remain strong enough till the distant future. I can endlessly mention the successes being attained.

[Second speaker not specified as Yi Kwang-chol or Pang Kun- chol] Our soldiers are accelerating the assembling of the framework for the 140 family dwellings at the eighth floor with the burning desire to uphold the party's leadership with loyalty. We completed the framework assembling of the 25-story dwellings of No. 2-16 block we see over there three months ahead of schedule, and are taking the lead to assemble the framework of these 14-story dwellings. We, who are the one-match-for-one hundred soldiers, have created the miracle of completing in one week the collection of (?gravel) which was said to take one month, with a firm faith that we will do what the party has decided to do.

Comrades Hyon Sa-il, commanding officer of the second company; Cho Hyon-sok, and Song Yong-mak, platoon commanders, are determined to build the Tongil Street dwellings, which carry our people's aspiration for reunification, brilliantly as a creation of the Workers' Party era and are carrying out 200 and 300 percent of their daily targets everyday. In the meantime, Comrades Yi Ki-ho and Kim Chang-kol, who are assigned the construction work, are carrying out the construction guidance well and in a responsible manner so that dwellings for 10 families are assembled in two days even in winter conditions by taking thorough measures for protecting the construction from cold.

Not conceited by this success, we are making sure that the construction project is well organized and commanded so that we will complete the framework assembling of the 14 storied No. 12 block dwellings by the 20th of this month without fail. [end recording]

South Korea

Premiers' Talks Planned for 11-14 December

SK0712131390 Seoul YONHAP in English 1303 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—The inter-Korean premiers' meeting was finally confirmed to be held as scheduled from Dec. 11 through Dec. 14 as officials from both sides concluded their preparatory contacts on Friday.

Liaison officials of the two sides fixed the procedural steps of the talks and itinerary of the North Korean delegation, to be headed by Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk, and exchanged a memorandum guaranteeing the safety of the northern delegates. They met at the truce village of Panmunjom. The northern visitors will consist of seven delegates, 33 supporting officials and 50 journalists.

It will be the third round of talks between Yon and his southern counterpart Kang Yong-hun. The North had threatened to scrap the meeting in protest against Seoul's arrest of three dissidents who met with North Koreans without government approval in an outlawed "pan-national" conference in Berlin in mid-November.

It remains doubtful, though, that the two sides could reach any agreement on some thorny pending issues. The South is expected to demand an adoption of a "basic agreement" that would pack together non-aggression declaration and accord on exchange-cooperation, while the North is to contend for a simultaneous adoption of two separate statements, one for non-aggression and the other for exchange-cooperation.

According to the agreed itinerary, the talks will proceed with an open meeting on Dec. 12 and a behind-the-door meeting on Dec. 13. The official dinner party, to be hosted by Kang, will be held once on Dec. 11. Yon's courtesy call on President No Tae-u is likely to be dropped out of the schedule for the northern officials expressed an intention to hold off the meeting.

On Dec. 12, the North Korean delegates will visit the National Classical Music Institute, where an inter-Korean joint music festival is to be held, the state-run Korea Broadcasting System and Lotte World Resort Center. They will come to Seoul by crossing the border through Panmunjom.

North Reportedly Planning Special Economic Zones

SK0712023790 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 7 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] It was revealed on 6 December that North Korea is pushing ahead with its plan to designate Pyongyang, Wonsan, and Hamhung as special economic zones, taking the Chinese special economic zones as a model, to tide over its serious economic difficulties.

A high-ranking government source on 6 December said: A Chinese diplomatic source well informed on North Korea's internal situation has recently informed our side that North Korea is pushing ahead with its plan to designate Pyongyang and other areas as special economic zones in the Chinese style. We understand that North Korea discussed this with China when North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk visited China last month and that Premier Yon Hyong-muk visited Shenzhen and had an in-depth discussion with General Secretary Jiang Zemin on the establishment of special economic zones.

The above-mentioned government source continued: Besides the establishment of special economic zones, North Korea is considering designating Hapsan Island in the Tumen River area as a free trade market. In view of North Korea's moves, it is very likely that the North and the South will reach some agreement on economic cooperation at the North-South High-Level Talks to be held in Seoul on 11 December.

Talk With Soviet Consul General in Seoul

SK0712071390 Seoul SINDONG-A in Korean Nov 90 pp 174-185

[Talk between Chong Chong-mun, editorial writer of TONG-A ILBO, and Yeremenko, Soviet consul general in Seoul: "ROK-USSR Diplomatic Relations Is a Product of Mutual Interests"]

[Text] The Republic of Korea and the Soviet Union have established official diplomatic relations. On 1 October 1990, 30 September local time, Korea's Minister of Foreign Affairs Choe Ho-chung and the Soviet Union's Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze held the first-time-ever meeting between the foreign ministers of the two countries in the office of the chairman of the Security Council at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The two men signed a historic communique establishing diplomatic relations, restoring normal relations between the two countries a 85 years after the Korea-Russia Friendship Treaty was abrogated in 1905. Indications are that before 1991 ends the Russian will establish an embassy in Seoul, we will open an embassy in Moscow, and each country will post a permanent ambassador to the other. The two sides also agreed in principle to an exchange of summit visits.

Loengrin E. Yeremenko, 60, was assigned to Seoul in August 1990 as the Soviet consul general in Seoul. Yeremenko graduated from Moscow's Asia University in 1953 and continued his work in Asian Studies at the Komsomol School and the Asian Research Center of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. He is well known as a "Korean expert," having been active as a professor-turned-diplomat in the Soviet Foreign Ministry since 1964. During his period at the Asian Research Center, Yeremenko was fascinated by the "Sukha Ilgi," written by Yonam Pak Chi-won, a towering figure of the early Yi Dynasty's Realist School. Yeremenko has been posted twice to Pyongyang, and during the more than two hours of the interview he responded to questions entirely in fluent Korean.

[Chong Chong-mun] I believe the establishment of official diplomatic ties between Korea and the Soviet Union is very significant. The Korean peninsula has been divided into a North and South for many years, has been caught up in the cold war, and in fact North and South confront each other right now. It is common sense that the Soviet Union would have an interest in this situation.

Despite the special situation on the peninsula, Korea and the Soviet Union have not had diplomatic relations for many years. I believe we are very lucky to establish ties now, although we certainly are tardy in doing so. In particular we expect that the establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and the Soviet Union will cause Moscow to play a positive role in establishing peace on the Korean peninsula, in reducing tensions thereon, and in improving relations between North and South. Meanwhile, North Korea will have no choice but to coolly recognize international reality, as Pyongyang's recent discussions with Japan to normalize relations in fact already attest. At the same time, observers expect that the establishment of relations between Korea and the Soviet Union will exert a significant influence on improving relations between Korea and China and between the United States and North Korea. In other words, structural change is occurring in the relations of a number of states with the Korean peninsula, including the United States, the Soviet Union, China, and Japan, and this will exert an influence on the future of the Korean peninsula. Mr. Consul General, what significance do you see in the establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and the Soviet Union?

[Loengrin E. Yeremenko] We also have ideas that are similar to the ones you have just expressed. The Soviet Union has been pursuing new policies over the last few years. As you know, the relationship between the Soviet Union and the United States was not all that congenial prior to 1985. But with President Gorbachev's emergence on the stage, the Soviet people began to see everything with new eyes, and since then our foreign policies have changed greatly.

Let's take a look at Europe. We have reaped a great harvest in Europe. Along with the United States and the western states, we have brought an end to the system of cold war that prevailed in Europe. This led the transformation away from the so-called cold war era. The Soviet Union intends to establish friendly relations with every country in the world. We have recently established diplomatic relations with Chile, Namibia, and Bahrain, and we are working on normalizing relations with Israel. In the East Asian area, however, the Soviet Union lacked relations with Korea for a very long time. Friendly relations between Korea and the Soviet Union were distorted and ruptured in the early years of this century. However, the Soviet Union now is seeking change in the East Asian region also. The East Asian region is recognized as one of the most important areas in the world. Many politicians expect the 21st Century will be the Pacific era. The Soviet Union will pursue vigorous activity in East Asia, as in Europe. And that activity will not be in the military sector as it has been in the past. I mean activities in the economic, cultural, and human dimensions.

Diplomatic Relations Achieved as Interests Coincided

[Chong] Korea had a number of objectives in wanting to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. First, we can say that establishing relations with one of the world's superpowers, the Soviet Union, has crucial diplomatic meaning all by itself. Second, we wanted to pursue friendly cooperation to benefit the interests of each country, cooperation economically, cooperation culturally, and cooperation technologically. Finally, the long history of friendly relations between your country and North Korea suggested to us that we could expect the Soviet Union to play a role in exerting influence on Pyongyang so as to improve relations between North and South. Moscow can play a significant role in this regard by stimulating North Korea to adopt the new thinking and the flexibility necessary for Pyongyang to emerge at some future time onto the international stage. The Soviet Union's interests in diplomatic relations may have differed from ours. Firstly, some people believe that Moscow wanted to establish diplomatic relations with us as an expedient to help improve relations with Japan, the world's second economic power, a view which gains some credibility, in fact, from President Gorbachev's scheduled visit to Japan next March. And there are other interpretations as well. In his recent speech in Vladivostok, Foreign Minister Shevardnadze proposed a meeting of Asian-Pacific foreign ministers for 1993, and the Soviet Union made a similar proposal in the Brezhnev era as well, but at that time the notion seemed to smack of the intent to forge some kind of collective security structure, whereas Shevardnadze's proposal this time seems to be oriented primarily at economics. Some people believe, therefore, that Moscow's move to establish diplomatic relations with us was designed to provide the Soviet Union with a springboard to future hegemony in the Pacific era. Maybe we could call this a kind of southern policy? From the Soviet Union's viewpoint, what were your purposes in establishing diplomatic relations with Korea?

[Yeremenko] As I see it, Korea has additional political reasons for concluding relations with us. The goal of the northern policy pursued by President No Tae-u is to normalize relations with the socialist states, including the Soviet Union, and the East European countries. We regard that to be a very logical policy. Korea has already established diplomatic relations with many East European states. Now that Korea has also established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, Seoul has achieved another of its major objectives. This will be judged to be a great political achievement by President No.

There is another large dimension to establishing relations. That is the economic one. Over the years, Korea has achieved considerable economic success. But many things are necessary in order for any country in the world to win higher levels of economic achievement. The representative examples of this are raw materials for production and export markets. The Soviet Union is rich in raw materials and has limitless possibilities as an export market as well. Moreover, the Soviet Union has a well-developed scientific sector. Our successes in cultural pursuits are also considerable. In sports and in other areas as well, we have many things for which to be proud. To exchange with each other the things we each do well is very desirable.

The establishment of diplomatic relations was a requisite political foundation. We must now build many concrete cooperative systems on this foundation. In the economic sector, for example, we need follow-on measures such as an agreement to guarantee investments and an agreement to prevent double taxation. Such agreements as these will make possible more affirmative exchanges between our two countries.

The USSR Is Pursuing Reform To Attract Foreign Investments

[Chong] Many people are interested to see how Korea and the Soviet Union can develop economic cooperation that will justify the establishment of diplomatic relations. For this reason our people are very interested in the upcoming visit to Seoul of Maslyukov, first deputy premier of the Soviet cabinet council. So far, the USSR has told us of only about 40 items in which it has an interest in trading, and there is some concern regarding the style of economic cooperation on which the Soviet Union will insist. Korea is a free trade system, for example, and because the Soviet Union's system has been a socialist one, our two peoples are short of common experience. We differ on many other points, such as the method of paying accounts. Indeed, one option advanced has been so-called barter trade. At the same time, we hear that the Soviet Union has suffered serious losses in barter trade with other countries, such as Finland, and so, we hear that Moscow isn't interested in barter trade after all.

[Yeremenko] The Soviet Union is just now attempting to change to a free market system. This means of course that Russia must change all of its economic principles. As these change, our methods of trading with other nations will also change.

In the past for example, foreigners in Russia were not allowed to purchase such things as land, businesses, or apartments. But in the future foreigners will be able to purchase anything they want in the Soviet Union. Foreign businessmen will be able to come into the country, buy land and business facilities, produce finished goods, and sell them either inside or outside of the Soviet Union. Joint investments will also be encouraged.

The Soviet Union is short of funds right now, and there is no great demand for rubles on the international market either. We must introduce new methods to overcome this difficulty. And I believe these new methods will more actively promote economic cooperation with foreign countries. Korea has a large number of businessmen with experience and extensive capital. If these men come to the Soviet Union and invest, then they must get profits. We will guarantee an institutional mechanism for foreign businessmen to repatriate profits to their home countries.

The Soviet Union can no longer live according to the methods it has lived under in the past. The limits of a planned economy have already clearly been revealed. Of course, the state must continue to supervise foreign affairs, national defense, and the official sectors, but outside of that all small businesses must be privately owned. If we go in this direction, then I think the Soviet Union can enjoy smooth economic cooperation with the nations of the world.

The Scale of Economic Cooperation Is Up to Korea

[Chong] Based on what we've heard, some Koreans believe that the Soviet Union wants too much from Korea, that it exceeds the economic burden we are able to bear. Of course helping out with all we've got makes us feel good. But lately the analysts are saying that the world's economy is teetering on the brink of recession as a result of the situation in the Persian Gulf, and Korea has many internal problems of its own, so the outlook is that in the future Korea's economy will experience great difficulties in economic competition. At this point, then, some people worry that we are embracing a very heavy burden as a result of the establishment of diplomatic relations with your country. Mr. Consul General, you've been in Seoul for some time and seen many things. What do you think about the difference between the two? I mean how do you view the difference between the expectations of the Soviet Union and Korea's capability to comply?

[Yeremenko] The scale of economic cooperation basically depends on Korea. Our market is enormous. We can use many things. I believe that it is up to Korea itself to decide how much it invests and in what form it operates its businesses. For example, the Soviet Union does not have enough automobiles. But Korea has large automobile manufacturers like Daewoo, Hyundai, and Kia. I think it is for Korea to discuss and decide internally whether these firms go to the Soviet Union and build factories individually or whether they advance into the Soviet Union on a joint-venture basis. Also I understand that a great many Korean businessmen representing small and medium industries want to advance into the Soviet Union. And of course our doors are open wide to them also. We anticipate that if the conditions are agreeable and if we can make the appropriate investment guarantees that they will participate actively.

[Chong] How did the reports about $2 billion or $3 billion originate?

[Yeremenko] I know nothing at all about that. This is an issue that will be taken up in a future conference and be decided. I believe, however, that this issue is not related to the establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and the Soviet Union. Neither the Soviet Union nor the Republic of Korea is buying or selling diplomatic relations.

[Chong] Do you mean, then, that there is no link between economic cooperation and diplomatic relations? You are saying that economic cooperation and diplomatic relations are separate issues?

[Yeremenko] That is correct. Of course, diplomatic relations can become the foundation on which economic cooperation occurs. Trade can transpire when there are no diplomatic relations, but its scale will always be limited. Diplomatic relations provide support for broader economic cooperation. Discussing the scale of economic cooperation, then, is something that basically must come only after diplomatic relations have been established.

[Chong] This is not related, but I read this in an article in an American newspaper. It was an article about a Russian father and son who had sought asylum in the United States. In the father's case, although he had defected to the United States, he found the life there too difficult and told his son that he was going to return to Russia. The son had lived in America since he was young and had acclimated to American society. The boy insisted that he would not return to the USSR. The article said the issue finally went to litigation in the American courts. As East and West Germany unified in recent weeks, we heard that many East German people felt a sense of loss. As they increased their contacts with the West Germans, they found their ways of thinking to be different, the way they acted to be different....

As can be seen in these examples, socialist people and capitalist people are basically different in their ways of thinking and their life styles. They have a great many differences. Various moves are underway in the Soviet Union to change to a market economy, but I think that the most important thing is the people themselves. In the process of reforming the Russian economy can people who have been raised as socialists suddenly switch to a market economy system and really increase production as much as anticipated? I even believe that this is the issue on which will turn the success or failure of the Soviet Union's economic reform.

[Yeremenko] We have a Russian proverb that goes, 'Habit is like an iron shirt.' Anything is uncomfortable until you establish it as a habit. The way of thinking and the way of acting of people who have been raised in a socialist system are clearly different from those of people who have been raised in a capitalist system. The Russian people, however, must adapt to a new environment; they must become accustomed to it. Soviet society has lived under government control and a planned economy for a very long time, and in fact our people have lost a lot of their spontaneity and originality. But if we want a market economy, we must change. Of course, older people will take more time to adapt. Younger ones will learn a little faster.

Many people in Soviet society right now, however, have plenty of spontaneity and originality. Just about the time I left Moscow six weeks ago, I readily felt the signs of change. The more people we have like that, the more clearly our market economy will succeed. We are now pushing a 500-day period of economic reform, and although 500 days will not be enough time, I believe that in three years, five years the Soviet society will have changed strikingly.

We Must Rid Ourselves of Marxist Theory

[Chong] We can characterize Karl Marx's key theories as forbidding private ownership, public ownership of the means of production, and a society in which no one is exploited by class. What happens to Karl Marx in the Soviet Union in the future when the 500-day plan works, when some 80 percent of the Russian people enjoy private ownership, and when the means of production will be in private hands?

[Yeremenko] Karl Marx wrote his 'Das Kapital' 150 years ago. He was a genius. And he wrote in his book exactly what he was witnessing in his time. The book sketches the impoverishment of the proletariat. But the flow of human development since his time has taken a direction different from the one he predicted. We can't live shackled forever to theories advanced 150 years ago. All the conditions are different. Many of the theorists in capitalist countries have a high respect for Karl Marx. And we respect him as well. But we can no longer live like we have lived.

[Chong] But there are many contradictions in capitalistic economic systems that need to be rectified. Such things as the monopolization of capital for example. I suppose it is the same way in all countries, but certainly in Korea there are many among our young generation who are devotees of the ideology of Karl Marx.

[Yeremenko] The capitalism of the times was in its infancy. The capitalists of Marx's time exploited the workers for more sweat and for more money. But the situation has changed now. Industrialists conduct production activities to sell manufactured goods and make a profit. But if the workers who work at the capitalists' plants cannot purchase the goods they themselves manufacture, then in the end it is the capitalists themselves who will become impoverished. Today's capitalists understand this very well. The working classes in capitalist countries are not impoverished. They are poor, of course, when compared to the capitalists themselves, but they have virtually everything they need to live well. That's sufficient. The people must have the money they need.

The theories of Marx were very right for his time. The capitalists wrung much sweat from the laborers in those days. But now certain logical limits apply. Each capitalist wants to maximize his profits, but each is aware of these limits. They are not great fools. But what are we doing? Are we discussing political economics? I'm afraid I'm not an expert on that.

[Chong] I understand you served in Pyongyang before you were assigned to Seoul. You must be well acquainted with the situation in North Korea. How do you evaluate North Korea's Chuche-style socialism?

[Yeremenko] What does 'chuche' mean? It means, 'I am my own master.' It means that each country and each people must be masters of their own fate. The 'chuche concept' is not something that was created in North Korea, or in any other place. We all know the term 'toadyism,' exists, right? 'Chuche' is the antonym of 'toadyism.' The term chuche is not a bad term in itself. But I believe that limits must be imposed on chuche just as standardized limits must be placed capitalism. For example, chuche is not all that desirable when it merges with nationalism.

In my view, a large measure of chuche exists right here in the Republic of Korea. South Korea has made many things with its own power, with its own hands. That's correct, right? North Korea has worked to make everything with its own hands, too, and in a situation where the country does not have abundant natural resources. I've been to Pyongyang three times. On my first visit, I spent a year there, from 1957 to 1958. Pyongyang had been destroyed in the war and virtually nothing was left of it then. Later, though, they rebuilt the city and the factories. They enjoyed many successes. I don't think their successes were that great, however, when compared to those of other countries. The Soviet Union was the same way. We achieved many successes after the war ended in 1945. Had a different system existed in the Soviet Union, however, we would have achieved even more.

[Chong] The Soviet Union has been boosting perestroyka and at the same time has removed the language that establishes the dictatorship of the party from its Constitution. A moment ago you said that the combination of chuche and nationalism produced undesirable results. There is another aspect to chuche. When it is applied to domestic politics and enshrined as state ideology, the phenomenon that results is one-man, absolutist rule built on a foundation of so-called limited democracy. The people are obliged to follow the orders of the party and the senior leadership. The party's leadership is absolute; the party's leaders rule without error, without mistake, as if gods. This appears to me to be North Korea's unique ideology, its Kim Il-songism. Do you believe this sort of North Korean-style socialism leads the people in the right direction?

[Yeremenko] Unrestricted power is undesirable wherever it is encountered. Stalin exercised unrestricted power from 1924 until 1953, and this was not correct. Every four or five years your country and countries like the United States hold elections, and that protects you from this phenomenon. The changes in the Soviet Constitution now spell out an apparatus for applying a brake to power. In the past we all believed that the actions of the Communist Party were right, that the Communist Party could not err. But now the situation is different. The president must be selected by ballot, with the participation of all the people. The Soviet Council elected our president this last time, but in the future I believe that the president must be elected by the direct ballot of all the people. All these things are the influence of the new way of thinking. We must abandon the methods of the past. A great wave of change is sweeping the Soviet Union. The Soviet people are pursuing new lives in every field, they are enjoying the new fruits of private ownership, and they are doing anything and everything new that they want. That is the way it must be.

North Korea Also Will Change Gradually

[Chong] The Soviet Union's Foreign Minister, Mr. Shevardnadze, visited North Korea in early September 1990. Afterwards, the North Korean newspaper, "MINJU CHOSON," published a communique. I was startled by the sharp language in that document. In sum, the North Koreans told you they didn't appreciate the Soviet Union establishing diplomatic relations with us. Immediately thereafter, however, Pyongyang proposed talks with Japan on the issue of establishing national relations with that country. The North Korean reaction to the announcement of the establishment of diplomatic ties between South Korea and the Soviet Union was as unreserved as anticipated. Does that make you nervous?

[Yeremenko] Of course, we can anticipate that North Korea would have some dissatisfaction. But isn't South Korea in the same situation as the North? South Korea probably has the same kind of feelings about discussions to begin relations between North Korea and Japan. South Korea quarrelled with Japan for a long time about the issues of an apology, reparations, and economic cooperation, and suddenly we see North Korea and Japan discussing the same problems. It can be no other way.

Time is like a doctor who cures disease. I'm saying that all will turn out well as time passes. We will not weaken our friendly relations with Pyongyang even as we broaden our relations with South Korea. Our relationship with North Korea is based on mutual need, and that relationship is unlikely to change in the future.

[Chong] Do you think it possible for North Korea to pursue its own brand of perestroyka or glasnost, possible for them to adopt new ways of thinking?

[Yeremenko] Perestroyka, or reform is everywhere. I can see that perestroyka applies even to South Korea. The northern policy, is this not perestroyka? And I saw something else interesting. Last month Seoul's "Anti-Communist League" changed its name to "League for Peace and Democracy" in Brussels. This too is perestroyka. Perestroyka is occurring everywhere. What North Korea will be in the future is an issue the North Korean Government and people must decide. Something like perestroyka or glasnost must occur in North Korea too. North Korea has refused to normalize relations with Japan for decades, yet now they have changed their minds. This too is perestroyka, it is openness. The North Koreans are changing a little at a time. They themselves must decide on the pace of change, but it is an undisputable fact that they are changing.

[Chong] A while back when the Soviet-Korean Mr. Marx Han visited Seoul, he said something very significant on television. He said that no matter the political system, when a worker leaves the job and comes home at night he sits down with his family or friends, and they talk about the complaints and problems they encounter in their lives. When these problems mount up, they can fuel the engine of history. Han said that this factor had provided the foundation for the reforms that swept East Europe. Han added that he believed that the same kind of foundation had been laid in North Korea as well. Han said he believed that if a leader with a new way of thinking were to emerge in the North, North Korea would change very quickly.

Objectively, however, I'm not so sure. Maybe it is the nature of the Asian communist countries? Perhaps Vietnam, China, and North Korea differ on this matter from the states of East Europe. Maybe their natures stifle demands for change which originate at the bottom. Do you think it possible in the future that demands for reform in North Korea can burst forth from the bottom of society?

[Yeremenko] I can't speculate on what will happen in North Korea. But certainly North Vietnam has slowly but successfully accepted perestroyka. A few years ago Vietnam was so bad off it couldn't feed itself. Today they produce so much rice they even export it. There have been big changes in China as well. They have privatized a great many industrial sites there.

[Chong] The North Korean unification policy differs significantly from our own. I suppose we could call theirs a "One Korea" policy. If you take a hard look at this so-called confederated Koryo notion of theirs, you'll see that it is extremely imprecise, that it is neither fish nor fowl. How do you see the outlook for unification on the Korean peninsula?

[Yeremenko] I believe that the Korean peninsula will be unified at some point in time. North and South Korea can differ on methods and approaches and still manage to arrive at the objective. The Soviet Union wants just one thing. Whether unification comes to the peninsula tomorrow or whether it comes 50 years from now, we want it to come peacefully and by democratic means and with no interference from outside powers. This is our immutable desire. North and South Korea must decide for themselves what mode is appropriate for unification."

A Veil Conceals the KAL Incident

[Chong] Not long ago a news report said that the Soviet Union was going to change its name. How about it? If the Soviet Union continues to change at this pace, will the term communism disappear from the Soviet Union?

[Yeremenko] Our official title is the "Union of Soviet Socialist Republics." Some people want to drop the term "soviet," and call our country the "socialist republic." Others want to discard the term "socialist," and call our country the "soviet republic." There are conflicting opinions on the matter. In my view, the first issue is not the country's name. Economics determines everything. A country with a strong economy doesn't argue about its name. I think that a country's name is a matter to be decided after a material foundation is in place and after undertaking a process of detailed ideological review.

[Chong] Finally, I have one last question for you. Korea and the Soviet Union have established diplomatic relations. This suggests that we should go forward into a new era together, having cleaned up any residue from unfortunate incidents that may have occurred in the past. In that regard, one case remains firmly in the hearts of the Korea people. That is the shooting down of KAL Flight 007. Was it about two years ago? The Department of Defense supplied material in response to a question asked at a hearing in Washington. The DOD response suggested that there was a strong possibility that when the USSR shot down the KAL aircraft that it did not realize the target was a civilian airliner.

[Yeremenko] We did not know.

[Chong] The USSR believed at the time that the KAL flight was a reconnaissance aircraft. Do you still believe that? If you did not know that it was a civilian aircraft at the time you shot it down, can you not apologize for the incident as you establish diplomatic relations with Korea?

[Yeremenko] First of all, we did not know what kind of aircraft it was. And at the time of the incident our newspapers reported that an involved, high-ranking Soviet official had expressed regret over the incident. The KAL flight was not alone at the time of the incident and at the site of the incident, however. One or two American fighter aircraft were with the KAL jetliner. And two aircraft were shot down at the time, not one.

[Chong] Are you saying that two aircraft were shot down simultaneously?

[Yeremenko] No. No, there was a brief space of time between the two crashes. One was the KAL aircraft, the other was a U.S. fighter. It is still not clear which of the two the missile fired by the Soviet Union actually hit at that time. This story was recently announced after research by experts and journalists in Europe.

[Chong] Didn't the Soviet Union officially acknowledge at the time the fact that it had shot down the KAL aircraft? According to what the Soviet side said then, they shot the KAL craft down because they thought it was a reconnaissance aircraft and it had penetrated deeply into Soviet territory. That was the official position taken during the Soviet announcement.

[Yeremenko] That is what we announced at the time. But I understand that new views emerged subsequently.

[Chong] In any event, will the Soviet Union express regret or make an apology in regard to shooting down the KAL aircraft?

[Yeremenko] Speaking as an individual, I believe that the KAL case has some very complex aspects to it. And I don't know what will happen in the future in regard to an apology. I regret to say that I can't give you an answer to your question. Others must work to solve this issue.

Japan Defense Agency Head Arrives for Visit

SK0712072090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—Yozo Ishikawa, director-general of Japan's Defense Agency, arrived in Seoul on Friday afternoon for a two-day official stay as a guest of his Korean counterpart. Ishikawa and Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku discussed ways to improve military relations between the two countries and Ishikawa later paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun.

On Saturday, he will meet with Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung and visit the front and the truce village of Panmunjom. It is the first time a defense agency head has made an official visit to South Korea.

Defense Chiefs Stress Cooperation

SK0712125390 Seoul YONHAP in English 1227 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—Defense ministers of South Korea and Japan on Friday agreed on the need to promote exchanges and cooperation in the military field between the two countries. The top defense officials shared the view that a close friendship between the two countries would be conducive to cementing stability in the Northeast Asia and global peace.

Minister Yi Chong-ku met Yozo Ishikawa, director-general of Japan's Defense Agency, at his office and discussed matters of mutual concern. The Japanese official arrived in Seoul earlier in the day to make a two-day official visit at Yi's invitation. He was the first director-general of the Japanese Defense Agency to make an official visit here.

The two officials also agreed that Japan's initiatives at economic cooperations and diplomatic ties with North Korea should be handled in a way that induces Pyongyang to adopt an open-door policy.

When Yi proposed bilateral cooperation and exchange in the military field, Ishikawa expressed sympathy, saying that the cooperation between the two countries will contribute to the peace in the region. Ishikawa also said Japan was reflecting on its past conduct, alluding to Japan's colonization of the Korean peninsula.

Pointing out that conflicts similar to the ongoing Gulf crisis persists may erupt in the Korean peninsula at any given time, Yi stressed that South Korea, the United States and Japan should cement their military cooperation in preparation for emergencies in the peninsula. He cautioned that the Japan's contacts with North Korea should not result in assisting North Korea with its possible schemes to strengthen existing ruling system, build up military forces and develop high technologies.

Ishikawa invited Yi to visit Tokyo.

Yi Chong-ku Expresses 'Concern'

OW0712115490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1042 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 7 KYODO—South Korea's Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku on Friday expressed concern over possible Japanese economic assistance to North Korea, over which Japan is currently holding talks aimed at establishing diplomatic ties, Japanese officials said. In a meeting with Japan's State Minister for Defense Yozo Ishikawa, Yi warned that Japan's assistance must never lead to an expansion of North Korea's military capability, the officials said. During the meeting, Yi proposed an exchange of information with Japan on air defense, they said.

Ishikawa also met with Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun. Ishikawa, director general of the Japanese Defense Agency, arrived in Seoul earlier in the day in an effort to brief South Korean leaders about Japan's defense policy and assure them that Japan will never reemerge as a major military power.

Japan and North Korea have so far held two rounds of preliminary talks in Beijing to prepare for the start of full-scale negotiations on the establishment of diplomatic ties. The two countries are expected to have a third round in Beijing later this month.

Ishikawa was the first Japanese defense minister to visit South Korea in over 11 years. He is scheduled to return home on Sunday.

Promised East-Bloc Technology Fails To Arrive

SK0712045090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0203 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 7 (YONHAP)—Lofty forecasts that South Korea would be inundated with East-bloc technology as a result of stunning diplomatic advances are foundering on the rocks of reality. Just six of the 1,303 imports of technology in the 22 months to the end of October came from Eastern Europe, a miniscule 0.005 percent of the total, the Korea Industrial Research Institute (KIRI) said Friday.

Korean companies expected a grand takeoff with the Soviet Union when Vice Science and Technology Minister Choe Yong-hwan initialed a technology exchange pact with the Soviet Committee for Science and Technology and Licensintorg on Sept. 28. Moscow proposed 786 possible technology transfers, but active negotiations have proved impossible because the Soviet Union has failed to provide details, KIRI officials said. The only one officially approved this year was between Samil Pharmaceutical Co. and Licensintorg for manufacturing a home cholesterol checking device.

Uncertainty about the level of East-bloc technology is another stumbling block, the officials said. Daelim Industrial Co., for example, hoped to get the technology to produce butyl rubber from the Soviet Union because countries such as the United States and Canada asked for high royalties. The company cannot actively pursue the project because it has only limited knowledge of the level of the Soviet technology, the official said.

The government recently relaxed regulations on technology imports, allowing private companies to file an application with a bank for projects with royalty payments of less than 2 percent and contracts shorter than three years. Any other contract must go through a related ministry, which only approves when the technology is considered "sophisticated and valuable."

"Figures and facts are discouraging, but South Korea began to normalize relations with the East bloc just last year," a KIRI official said. "The government virtually banned technology imports from countries with which it lacked diplomatic relations because of the payments involved, mainly of royalties. But now that we are quickly improving ties with Eastern Europe, we can reasonably expect better performance soon," he said.

Military To Prepare for North, Regional Threats

SK0712073790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0719 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea's military must look beyond reunification with the North and prepare to defend Korea against other nations in the region, Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku said Friday. In a year-end conference of major commanding officers of the armed forces, Yi also said the army must lead inter-Korean arms control negotiations and help to achieve national reunification.

"In the fast-changing political environment in Northeast Asia, our armed forces should develop strategies against threats from neighboring nations based on Korea-U.S. security cooperation," the retired army general said. Yi's remarks were the first references to the military role in long-term inter-Korean arms control and post-unification defense strategies, analysts said.

The military buildup will concentrate on deterring a North Korean attack and, in looking toward the future, the army must also prepare for arms control, he said. "Our reality is that we are in dangerous environment, but the most dangerous element in national security is our failure to recognize this," Yi said. In order to overcome the danger, the military should adapt to national and international situations and develop future-based policies, he added.

No Names Kim Tok-chu to Chief Justice Position

SK0712090890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0824 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 7 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u has named Supreme Court Justice Kim Tok-chu to succeed Yi Il-kyu as chief justice when he retires on Dec.

15, a presidential spokesman said on Friday. The nomination will be submitted to the National Assembly for approval on Saturday, the spokesman said.

Kim, 57, is a native of Puyo in South Chungchong Province and a graduate of Seoul National University's College of Law. He has sat on the bench at Taegu District Court, Seoul District Civil Court and Seoul Appellate Court. He was presiding judge at both Chunchon District Court and Seoul District Civil Court, and was deputy director of the Office of Court Administration.

In 1979, he ruled in favor of suspending Kim Yong-sam as head of an opposition party. This earned him 87 objections when the National Assembly voted on his nomination to the Supreme Court in July 1988.

As deputy director of the Court Administration Office in 1980, Kim was a leading player in the controversial "clean-up" of the judiciary by a group of military officers that included Chon Tu-hwan. Kim again placed himself in the center of a public controversy by granting bail to Yi Chang-sok, Chon's brother-in-law, and returning his conviction on embezzlement and tax evasion charges to the appellate court for review. A lower court had sentenced Yi, 38, to two years and six months in prison and fined him 3 billion won (4.16 million U.S. dollars).

Chondaehyop Expected To Dominate Student Groups

SK0712071790 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 5 Dec 90 p 19

[Text] As a result of the nation-wide elections for school council presidents at each university for the year 1991, candidates from the National Liberation [NL] faction, who are mostly affiliated to the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop], were elected in major universities, including Seoul National University, Yonsei University, and Korea University. Therefore, it seems that next year's student movement will be led by Chondaehyop.

On 4 December, according to the Ministry of Education, among the 90 universities that had held elections for school council presidents for next year, 50 universities elected the candidate from the NL faction; 31 universities elected the candidate from the non-activist faction; and nine universities elected the candidate from the People Democratic [PD] faction.

Candidates from the NL faction were mostly elected from the universities in the Kyongin and Yong-Honam region, such as Seoul National University, Yonsei University, Korea University, Chonnam University, Pusan University, and Kyongbuk University. On the other hand, it has been revealed that only nine universities, including Sogang University, Kangwon University, Myongji University, Taegu University, and Kwangun University, produced successful candidates from the PD faction. Last year 16 universities, including Seoul National University and Kyongbuk University, had elected their president on the student council from the PD faction.

University-related experts concluded that candidates from the PD faction fared poorly in this year's elections for school council presidents because its theory of reform is not arousing sympathy from the students.

Ten universities, including Yongnam University, Wongwang University, Kwangun university, Kyemyong University, Hoso University, Sangji University, and Usok University, elected candidates from the student activist group. Last year, these universities ahd elected candidates from the non-activist group. Also ten universities, including Sugmyong Women's University, Aju University, Kyongnam University, and Ulsan University, elected candidates from the non-activist group. Last year, these universities had elected candidates from the activist group.

Burma

Minister, Delegation Depart for Visit to China

BK0512142590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation headed by Lieutenant General Tin Tun, a member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], who is also the minister of transport and communications and labor and social welfare and the Air Force chief of staff, left by air for a goodwill visit to the PRC from Yangon [Rangoon] airport at 1330 today.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Lt. Gen. Than Shwe, SLORC vice chairman and deputy commander in chief of the Defense Services; Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, minister of mines and energy and Navy chief of staff; Lt. Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw, minister of construction and cooperatives; Maj. Gen. Tin U, SLORC secretary-2; Maj Gen Myo Nyunt, chairman of the Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council; high-ranking military officers; Cheng Ruisheng, PRC ambassador to Myanmar; and responsible officials.

PRC Vice Minister, Delegation Depart Rangoon

BK0612142690 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] The visiting PRC delegation headed by Tang Zhongwen, vice minister of the Ministry for Machine Building and Electronics, left Yangon [Rangoon] by air this evening. The PRC industrial delegation was seen off at the airport by Commodore Than Nyunt, Navy chief of staff; Brigadier General Thein Win, Air Force chief of staff; Brig Gen Myo Thant, director of signals; high-ranking military officials; Lieutenant Colonel Kyi Lwin, director general of the Information and Broadcasting Department; U Soe Tha, managing director of the Myanmar [Burma] Communications Service, and responsible officials, and Cheng Ruisheng, PRC ambassador, and staff members of the PRC Embassy.

U Ohn Gyaw, Delegation Depart for Vientiane

BK0412142690 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 4 Dec 90

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation headed by U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Foreign Ministry Political Department of the Union of Myanmar, left by air for Vientiane today at the invitation of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

The Myanmar delegation comprises representatives from the Defense Ministry, the Foreign Ministry, the Naval Hydrographical Unit, the Survey Department, and the Shan State Law and Order Restoration Council.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon [Rangoon] airport by Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of State Law and Order Restoration Council; directors general of the ministries concerned; responsible departmental officials; and Veng Saysana, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Lao Embassy.

Court Declares 3 NLD Officials 'Abscondees'

BK0512143090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] Dr. Tint Swe of Pale Constituency-2, U Than Kywe of Shwedaung Constituency-1, and U Si Maung of Lemyethna Constituency-1—all of whom are People's Assembly representatives of the National League for Democracy [NLD]—were discovered to have participated in the holding of clandestine meetings in September and October to discuss the formation of a parallel government in Mandalay and an interim government underground. While efforts were being made to take legal action against them, they were found to have absconded.

Charges were filed against the three on 4 December 1990 at the Bahan Township Court under Sections 5A, 5B, and 5E of the 1950 Emergency Provisions Act and under Procedural Code 512. The court has declared them abscondees.

Khin Nyunt Holds 'Special' News Conference

BK0712082490 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Excerpts] Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], held a special 107th news conference with local and foreign journalists at the No. 1 defense services guest house this morning at 0900. [passage omitted]

At the news conference, Khin Nyunt explained BCP [Burma Communist Party] attempts to gain state power and about underground communist groups and persons related to the communists who are infiltrating various local student associations, approaching and organizing monks and sanghas, infiltrating political parties, and using various methods to create unrest and involve themselves in antigovernment political activities. BCP members have also infiltrated several other insurgent groups, acquired various positions, and are trying to obtain state power from all sides.

He next explained about the activities in Mandalay involving the Laypyin Layyat Sangha Sameggi group and students, the BCP underground groups, and personnel from political parties and some diplomats. He also explained matters regarding the National League for Democracy, which is trying through various means to obtain state power, and attempts made by some elected Hluttaw [People's Assembly] representatives to form a parallel government and a government-in-exile. [passage omitted]

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Ministry Announces Date of Li Peng's Visit

BK0612132690 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] The Chinese Prime Minister, Li Peng, will make an official visit to the country beginning 10 December at Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir's invitation.

According to a Foreign Ministry statement, the Chinese leader will be accompanied by his wife and a delegation of cabinet ministers and other government officials.

Among other things, Mr. Li Peng will hold talks on bilateral relations and regional issues with his Malaysian counterpart during the four-day visit. He will also be granted an audience with the Paramount ruler, Sultan Azlan Shah.

The Chinese prime minister's itinerary includes a visit to the Shah Alam industrial zone and the Proton Saga production plant.

Sabah Seeking To Mend Ties With Kuala Lumpur

BK0712085690 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 6 Dec 90 p 18

[Text] Kota Kinabalu—Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) will seek ways and means to mend its relationship with the federal government, Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan said on Tuesday.

He said PBS is prepared to hold discussions with members of the National Front but it needed time before an invitation could be extended to the federal leaders.

Speaking on his return from Kuala Lumpur, he also claimed that his relationship with federal leaders was not affected by the party's decision to leave the Front. "The bad relationship between the state and federal leaders is only an assumption made by the media. During my two-day visit to Kuala Lumpur, the relationship has been cordial," he added.

Earlier in the day, PBS secretary general Datuk Joseph Kurup called for a truce between the state ruling party and the Front govenment in Kuala Lumpur by proposing that an amicable solution be sought to end the political confrontation.

Alluding to the visit of Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba to the state, Datuk Pairin said there was nothing to stop Front leaders from visiting Sabah because the state is part of Malaysia. He also said his removal from the State Action Committee would not hamper the development in Sabah because his government could still monitor the development progress through different channels.

Meanwhile, in the Sabah town of Sipitang, Mr Ghafar dismissed claims that Christians will be forced to embrace Islam if the Front wins the Sipitang state seat in the forthcoming by election. Speaking at a goodwill gathering at Sekolah Kebangsaan Mendolong, he said that as long as the Front was in power, the people would have religious freedom. "Religion is a personal matter and the government will never interfere," he said. "If any Muslim attacks a Christian, for instance, we will arrest him and vice-versa." Malaysians enjoyed prosperity and peace because there was no religious strife in this country, he said.

Mr Ghafar, who was accompanied by the Front candidate for the Sipitang state by-election, Dr Haji Yusuf Yacob, and several heads of federal government departments, also spoke about the religious freedom within the Front government. "If the PBS claim that the Malays are anti-other religions is true then surely there will not be any non-Muslim in the National Front government," he said.

Mr Ghafar said the state-level Front, supported by UMNO [United Malays National Organization], the United Sabah National Organisation, Angkatan Keadilan Rakyat, and the Liberal Democratic Party, would form a strong front to topple PBS.

He warned that Sabahans will become isolated and alienated from the rest of the country if PBS was left to rule Sabah. He also said that the Sabah state government assumed it was in total control of the state and could do what it pleased. "If this is not so, it is certain that the PBS would not be so hasty in leaving the Front," he added.

He said he was interested to know whom Datuk Pairin was going to turn to for help now that relations between the state and federal governments were severed.

Cambodia

Heng Samrin, Delegation Return From Laos 6 Dec

BK0612115190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] The high-ranking party-state-front delegation led by Comrade Heng Samrin, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Council of State of the State of Cambodia, returned home safely at 1600 on 6 December after paying a successful visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Welcoming the high-ranking party-state-front delegation at Pochentong Airport were Comrade Chea Sim, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly and of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense; Comrade Hun Sen, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Chea Soth, member of the Political Bureau of the party

Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Sar Kheng, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, chief of Cabinet of the party Central Committee, and chairman of the Central Organization Commission; Comrade Say Chhum, member of the the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and standby vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the party Central Committee's Control Commission; Comrade General Tie Banh, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of National Defense; Mrs. Men Sam-an, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade Ney Pena, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the party Central Committee's Control Commission; Comrade General Sin Song, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and minister of the interior; Comrade Sim Ka, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Phnom Penh Municipal Party Committee; Comrade Lieutenant General Pol Saroeun, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, deputy minister of National Defense, and chief of the General Staff of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF]; the comrade members of the party Central Committee; leaders of the party, state, front, and mass institutions and organizations; ministers, deputy ministers, department chiefs and deputy chiefs, and cadres and personnel from various central ministries and offices; members of the CPAF; and a large number of people, ethnic nationalities, and students in Phnom Penh.

Also on hand at the airport were the comrades ambassadors, charges d'affaires, and representatives of various embassies in Cambodia.

SPK Reports Japanese Communist Party Visit

BK0712101290 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0450 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 7—Chea Sim, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea [PRPK] Central Committee and chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the United Front for Construction and Defence of the Kampuchean Fatherland, received in Phnom Penh Wednesday a visiting delegation of the Communist Party of Japan led by vice- president Tachiki Hiroshi.

Speaking to his guests, Chairman Chea Sim thanked the Communist Party of Japan for its support to the just struggle of the Cambodian people, and its efforts to maintain good relations with the PRPK.

After informing the Japanese delegation of the comprehensive achievements scored by the Cambodian people over the past 12 years, Chairman Chea Sim also expressed gratitude to the Japanese government for helping to organize a forum for the settlement of the Cambodian issue in Tokyo. He said that Prime Minister Hun Sen's presence in Tokyo marked a step forward in developing Cambodia-Japan relations.

For his part, Tachiki Hiroshi praised the Cambodian people's remarkable gains in unison around the PRPK in the struggle against all outside interference in Cambodia's internal affairs. He said he supported any solution to the Cambodian conflict that guarantees the Cambodian people's right to self-determination.

The Japanese Communist leader also spoke of the need for the Communist Party of Japan and the PRPK to unite together in face of the complicated development of the world situation.

The Japanese delegation left Phnom Penh Thursday after a three-day visit.

While here, it met with Dit Munti, member of the PRPK Central Committee and chief of the party's Central Propaganda and Education Commission; and Yos Son, member of the PRPK Central Committee.

Radio Sums Up Military Activities in 'Past Week'

BK0712111990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 6 Dec 90

[From the "Weekly Roundup of Salient Events" feature]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] During the past week, the three Cambodian reactionary groups continued to launch their protracted war maneuvers and activities by infiltrating and sending their forces, arms, and ammunition into some mountainous and outlying remote areas for use in killing the people and robbing them of their food and property, and in preparation for the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

However, despite the f[illegible] that the enemies have continued launching their perfidious maneuvers and military campaigns against us, our armed forces and people in all units and all localities have been able to strengthen and expand their position of strength, victory, and mastery, and their high sense of vigilance and responsibility for the tasks of national defense. We have frustrated enemy maneuvers and activities successively.

As a matter of fact, during the past week our armed forces in cooperation with the people intercepted in a timely manner all adventurous activities of the three enemy groups. As a result of our 11 counterattacks, our armed forces put out of action 124 enemy soldiers, including 98 killed, 11 captured, and 15 others who surrendered. We also seized 64 assorted weapons, an ICOM walkie- talkie, and a large quantity of war materiel. [passage omitted]

Ranariddh Affirms Support for UNSC Document

BK0612020890 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Dec 90 p 5

[Letter from Norodom Ranariddh, supreme commander of the Sihanouk Nationalist Army, from the "Post Bag" section]

[Text] Sir: Following your editorial entitled "Khmer factions must get serious" (BANGKOK POST, November 30), I would like to draw your kind attention to the following:

1. The FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] has not only been fully supporting the Framework Document of the Perm Five in its entirety as the basis for settling the Cambodia conflict, but also, it continues to earnestly believe in that document which, if accepted by the Phnom Penh regime and to be fully implemented in Cambodia would enable the Cambodian people to exercise their right of self determination free from fear, intimidation or violence and ensure free and fair elections in Cambodia.

2. Convinced that confidence building measures must be established to facilitate the implementation of the peace agreement, that was why we have proposed that the ceasefire, the cessation of external arms supplies to all factions and the complete disarmament of their forces be monitored and controlled by the United Nations Peace Keeping Force, in the framework of a comprehensive political settlement formulated by the Perm Five.

3. We deeply deplore that despite our constant and concrete commitment to peace and genuine national reconciliation, our FUNCINPEC is still being put in the same "basket" with the uncompromising puppet regime of Phnom Penh which:
—fails to uphold the spirit of the Jakarta Joint Statement and the Framework Document of the Perm Five, and
—Flatly says "No" to the UNTAC's [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] role to fulfil its peace duties in Cambodia.

4. If there exist only two options: "compromise" and "continuation of war," at this very stage of the comprehensive political settlement, to reject the Perm Five Framework Document based on UN's enhanced role is not taking the first option, but the second one. Then, one should have no difficulty in identifying who wants peace and who opts for a military solution. Is Phnom Penh in fear of losing its one-party dominated communist regime, under the UN-organised free and fair elections?

5. If a few more words would help, then, one should not let the peace process be the hostage of the unimportant question relating to the controversial SNC [Supreme National Council] issue. Most important of all is for the Khmer factions to go to the PICC [Paris International Conference on Cambodia] and unconditionally endorse the UN-peace plan, the only real compromise option for peace. [Signed] Norodom Ranariddh

Sihanouk Group Calls For Pressure on Phnom Penh

BK0712114290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1121 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Bangkok, Dec 7 (AFP)—A Cambodian guerrilla group Friday called on the world's major powers to force Phnom Penh to accept a peace settlement giving the U.N. sweeping powers to run Cambodia until elections are held there.

In a statement issued here by the office of Prince Norodom Sihanouk the group also called on "some governments" to "stop rewarding" Phnom Penh's Vietnam-installed government.

The communique mentioned no country by name but analysts said the remark could be aimed at France following the opening earlier this year in the Cambodian capital of a cultural center by Thierry de Beauce, a junior minister in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Paris has no official relations with Cambodia.

Last month in Paris, the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council—Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States—put together a draft peace agreement for Cambodia which would give the U.N. broad powers to administer the country until elections.

Prince Sihanouk is both the titular head of a tripartite guerrilla coalition fighting Phnom Penh and the leader of one of its two non-communist factions.

The alliance is dominated by the Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge, a radical Marxist group which was driven from power in Cambodia in January 1979 when Vietnam invaded the country to replace it with a friendly government in Phnom Penh.

"We... call on the cochairmen of the Paris conference on Cambodia and the Five (Security Council permanent members) to continue their peace efforts and, in particular, to keep putting effective pressure on the Hun Sen regime," said the statement signed by Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Prince Sihanouk's son.

Mr. Hun Sen is Cambodia's prime minister.

An International Paris Conference on Cambodia broke up last year in disarray following differences between Cambodia's warring factions over power-sharing.

The conference, which is chaired jointly by France and Indonesia, is to resume eventually if a peace settlement is arrived at. But the Phnom Penh Government has said it would not accept being dismantled so as to surrender executive powers to the U.N. during a transition period.

It has also said it wants its troops to remain intact, whereas military arrangements in the U.N.-brokered peace plan provide for a regrouping of all armed forces to designated barracks where their weapons would be stored under U.N. supervision.

VODK Urges Continued Pressure on Vietnam

BK0512093990 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 4 Dec 90

[Station commentary: "The Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors and Their Puppets and Lackeys Are Carrying Out Maneuvers To Hinder Efforts To End Their War of Aggression in Cambodia Politically and Comprehensively"]

[Text] At the order of the Hanoi Vietnamese leaders, puppet and traitor to the nation Hun Sen has insolently rejected Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's proposal to convene a four-Cambodian party meeting in Paris to break the deadlock of a solution to end the war of aggression in Cambodia comprehensively. This attitude of the Hanoi Vietnamese and their puppets and lackeys clearly shows the world that they refuse to solve Vietnam's nearly 12 year-old war of aggression in Cambodia politically, comprehensively, and definitively as the Cambodian people and the international community want. They have carried out maneuvers to block any efforts aimed at achieving a political and comprehensive solution to the Cambodian problem based on the five-chapter framework document of the UN Security Council [UNSC].

In the joint statement dated 25 November, the five permanent members of the UNSC and the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia appealed to all Cambodians to strive to make the Supreme National Council [SNC] work in order to reconvene the international conference on Cambodia. They all hope that the SNC members, along with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, would quickly solve major issues which to this day have prevented the SNC from fulfilling its role in the process to solve the Cambodian problem.

Respecting this appeal and to contribute to the international community's efforts, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has proposed to convene a four Cambodian party meeting in Paris quickly to speed up a solution to the Cambodian problem in accordance with the framework of the UNSC five permanent members. The three parties of the Cambodian national resistance forces have immediately accepted Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's proposal in a spirit to quickly settle Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia politically. The Cambodian national resistance forces have also declared their full support for the 25 November Paris joint statement, like they did for successive statements of the UNSC five permanent members.

This shows the goodwill of the Cambodian national resistance forces and the entire Cambodian people to settle Vietnam's 12-year war of aggression politically, peacefully, and quickly. However, the Hanoi Vietnamese and their puppets and lackeys have refused to settle the Cambodian problem (?peacefully); instead they have tried to hinder every effort to settle Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia comprehensively in accordance with the five-chapter document.

Earlier, the Hanoi Vietnamese and their puppets dared not oppose this document openly; they opposed it discreetly through the method of not accepting Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC in order to prevent the five-chapter framework document from being implemented. Later, as the cochairmen of the Paris conference and the UNSC five permanent members continue to meet and work out details of this document, Vietnam and its puppets openly oppose this framework by rejecting major key points of this document, such as opposing the role of the interim UN administration and the UN peacekeeping force, and insisting that troops and the regime Vietnam has propped up in Phnom Penh be maintained. Lately, Vietnam has not even released the puppet for negotiations.

Thus, the obstacle to solving the Cambodian problem came from the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets and lackeys. In the past 11 years, the obstacle came from the Vietnamese side and puppets; now the obstacle still comes from Vietnam and its puppets. To eliminate this obstacle, continued and stronger pressure should be applied on Vietnam in every field until it agrees to fully implement, unchanged, the five-chapter framework document of the UNSC's five permanent members and the 10 September 1990 Jakarta statement, which it solemnly signed in front of the international community.

Reasons Behind Phnom Penh's 'Insolence' Revealed

BK0712040290 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Station commentary: "What Is Behind the Arrogance and Insolence of the Puppets, Traitors to the Nation, and Vietnam's Lackeys in Phnom Penh in Opposing and Violating the Framework Document of the UN Security Council's Five Permanent Members and the Jakarta Document, Which They Have Signed?"]

[Text] The puppets and Vietnam's lackeys in Phnom Penh are openly and increasingly voicing their opposition to the framework document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] and the Jakarta document.

In a speech he recently made in Battambang, the one-eyed Hun Sen opposed the five-chapter framework document, the Jakarta document—which he has solemnly accepted—and the Paris 25 November joint statement of the Paris conference cochairmen and the five permanent members. This further clearly shows the world that the Vietnamese enemy and its lackeys and puppets have refused to settle the Cambodian problem politically, comprehensively, justly, and definitively the way the international community and the Cambodian people want. Why have the puppets and Vietnam's lackeys raised their voice to oppose the UN peace plan and the agreement they have signed and accepted in such an arrogant and insolent manner?

1. As Narudon, spokesman of the Thai Army, said last week, in the last few months of 1990 the Hanoi authorities have dispatched a lot of troops to Cambodia. In Battambang Province alone, Vietnam has brought in up to 4,000 soldiers. This view is correct.

Since September, Vietnam has successively dispatched 60,000 fresh troops from Vietnam to battlefields in Cambodia. Along with this, Vietnamese troops already inside Cambodia—which Vietnam pulled out and hid in September 1989—have come out to openly oppose the resistance forces on every battlefield. For example the 330th Division appears on the Battambang-Route 10 battlefield and the 4th Division in Koh Kong, its old position. Part of the 4th Division troops were pulled out and combined with those of the 330th Division on Route 10. The 5th Division appears in Sisophon and the 307th Division in Choam Khsan, and so on.

2. Vietnam and the Soviet Union also called a meeting in Phnom Penh of their puppets in Phnom Penh and Vientiane at the end of November to urge the Phnom Penh puppets to oppose the five-chapter document and the Jakarta document. Their aim is to prevent the Cambodian problem from being settled quickly in order to allow Vietnam to try another military test. If Vietnam has the upper hand over the Cambodian national resistance forces on the battlefield, they would force others to settle the Cambodian problem on Vietnam's terms and bury the five-chapter framework document and the Jakarta document; Vietnam would then continue to occupy Cambodia forever in accordance with its Indochinese federation strategy.

These are the reasons why puppet and traitor to the nation Hun Sen has more arrogantly and insolently opposed the framework document of the UNSC five permanent members. It is because Vietnam has dispatched 10,000 fresh troops to Cambodia and the Soviet Union is behind him. However, the one-eyed puppet does not know anything. He brags about like a big frog in a little pond; he does not know that his two masters are about to die because of hardship. Earlier, there was famine in Vietnam, and now the Soviet Union too is short of food and is begging others.

In this situation, how far can the Vietnamese enemy, who is already trapped in a well, go to get himself out? Will the Cambodian people, who have fought the Vietnamese aggressors for the past 12 years and pushed them into this well, allow Vietnam to get out of it? Will the international community, and in particular the UNSC five permanent members—who have set up a framework for Vietnam to settle the Cambodian problem politically and comprehensively on 28 August 1990, a framework which has successively been adopted by the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly—allow Vietnam to get away from this five-chapter document? It is obvious that everyone will continue to pressure Vietnam until the latter and its puppets agree to fully implement the five-chapter document and the Jakarta document.

VONADK—Enemy Troops Routed in Kompong Speu

BK0612040390 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Excerpt] On 15 November, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and ringleaders of traitors and puppets Hun Sen and Heng Samrin, Vietnam's lackeys, assembled 150 Vietnamese and puppet soldiers and left Bar Set position in an attempt to retake our people's liberated villages in Phong and Kak communes in Kong Pisei District, Kompong Speu Province.

A group of Cambodian soldiers with patriotic spirit passed this information to our people's united forces. Upon receiving this information, our people quickly cooperated with our Cambodian national resistance forces operating against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in the area. When the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppet soldiers arrived at (? Phnum Phlut), they were ambushed and routed by our Cambodian national resistance forces: Seven were killed on the spot, including a Vietnamese company commander; 17 others wounded; and the remaining troops fled back. Our people's united forces and our Cambodian national resistance forces seized 12 weapons and a quantity of ammunition and war materiel. [passage omitted]

Sihanouk Greets Yugoslav National Day

BK0612041390 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Message from Cambodian President Norodom Sihanouk to Yugoslav President Borisav Jovic on Yugoslavia's National Day, dated 28 November]

[Text] Dear President: On the solemn occasion of the National Day of the Yugoslav Socialist Federal Republic [SFRY], on behalf of the Cambodian people, the Cambodian national government, and the Cambodian national resistance forces, and in my own name, I am honored to express warmest congratulations and best wishes. May you enjoy all kinds of happiness; may the courageous and valiant Yugoslav people enjoy progress; and may Yugoslavia make further progress in national construction.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express again most profound thanks to the SFRY for providing precious assistance and support to Cambodia, the Cambodian national government, and the Cambodian people in the just struggle to liberate Cambodia and to restore its independence, neutrality, and nonaligned status with its territorial integrity. We are very happy with the constantly developing Cambodia-Yugoslavia friendship.

PLease accept my high consideration.
[Dated] 28 November 1990
[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

Khieu Samphan Greets Thai King's Birthday

BK0612040990 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Message from Khieu Samphan, Cambodian vice president in charge of foreign affairs, to Thai Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan; dated 3 December]

[Text] Your Excellency: On the solemn occasion of the Thai king's birthday, I would like to express on behalf of the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national government, and in my own name, wholehearted and sincere congratulations and best wishes to the king of Thailand. May he enjoy good health, longevity, and success. May the Kingdom of Thailand enjoy only glory and prosperity forever.

I would also like to express once again most profound gratitude to the king of Thailand for his kindness in allowing Cambodiam war refugees to take temporary shelter in the Kingdom of Thailand. Our Cambodian people will always remember this deed of Thailand's king and of the entire royal family. I would also like to take this opportunity to express again most profound thanks to Your Excellency and the royal Thai Government for providing precious and constant assistance and support to the just struggle of the Cambodian people under the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodian president, to win back national independence.

May the relations of friendship and traditional solidarity between our two countries and the two neighboring people be further strengthened and expanded.

Please accept my highest consideration and best wishes for your good health and further successes in your precious mission.
[Dated] 3 December
[Signed] Khieu Samphan

Indonesia

Treaty With Australia Said To Uphold Interests

BK0712104490 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas says Indonesia's interests are by no means undermined by the Treaty of Timor Gap cooperation zone with Australia. Minister Alatas said this in Jakarta this morning at a news conference in conjunction with the tabling of a bill a few days ago at the House of Representatives on the cooperation zone treaty.

The minister added that the Indonesian Government had worked hard before an agreement was reached in December 1989 and it had not listened to the Australian Government's arguments alone. In the accord, the two sides agreed to divide the cooperation zone into three zones, namely Zone A, B, and C. He noted that the hard work had enabled the country to exploit mineral resources in Zone B as well as to reap benefits from Zone C.

[Begin Alatas recording] Zone B is located outside [word indistinct] and we should not think we are entitled to 50 percent of that zone, though we are only getting 16 percent. This is the wrong way of thinking. In fact, we should be getting nothing from that zone, but through hard work and negotiations we can now get 16 percent, even though legally speaking we are supposed to get nothing there. As for Zone C, it is an overlapping area where both sides are supposed to get 50 percent each. However, after negotiations we gave the Australians 10 percent only, not 50 percent. This is our second gain. Therefore, it all depends on how you look at things and we can decide whether our interests are undermined. [end recording]

The foreign minister said the cooperation zone treaty is of a temporary nature and is aimed at solving the impasse in the search to find the continental shelf border between Indonesia and Australia. The two countries began to discuss the issue of the continental shelf about 10 years ago. If a new agreement is reached, the treaty will be abrogated.

Alatas on Timor Gap Treaty, Cambodia Talks

BK0712105990 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1008 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Jakarta, December 7 (OANA-ANTARA)—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has told the Indonesian press not to publish groundless opinions on the treaty on the Timor Gap between Indonesia and Australia as the issue is now still under parliamentary debate for ratification. It would only make the people confused, he told a weekly press briefing at his office here on Friday [7 December]. "I do not agree if Indonesia is described as having miscalculated things in the treaty," he said and stressed that there was a difference between the treaty on the Timor Gap and the treaty on continental shelf now still under negotiations between Indonesia and Australia. He also said that the treaty on the Timor Gap would not affect the negotiation process on the continental shelf between Indonesian and Australian officials which had been stalled for nine years. According to him, the Timor Gap Treaty was merely made to jointly develop the particular zone economically and to invite foreign contractors to invest their capital in that area of cooperation between Indonesia and Australia. He assured that if the two countries had reached an agreement on the continental shelf boundary, the existing production sharing contracts would continue but all the rights and obligations in the zone of cooperation would be transferred from the joint authority to countries having the full jurisdiction of the areas. Minister Alatas further explained on the different perception between Indonesia and Australia, which had caused the stalled discussions on the continental shelf boundary, in which Canberra stated there were two continental shelves. In this connection, he went on, Indonesia turns down the Australian claim and insists that there is only one continental shelf between Indonesia and Australia. So it is not true that Indonesia accepts all Australian views on the continental shelf issue, he said. He said that similar treaties for the joint development of a zone similar to the Timor Gap had also been signed between Japan and South Korea and between Malaysia and Thailand. On that occasion, Minister Alatas reaffirmed that he had not fixed a certain date for his departure for Paris to attend the International Conference on Cambodia (PICC), since he had not received any confirmation yet from the French Government on the meeting. His statement was made to clarify recent press reports saying that he was scheduled to leave here for Paris on 8 December to attend the PICC. He reiterated his previous statement that the PICC co-chairmen (Indonesia and France) would invite all members of the Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) to Paris before reconvening the PICC. In addition, Alatas, in his capacity as co-chairman of the PICC, would also offer his good offices to help solve the internal problems of SNC in electing its chairman and vice chairman, he said.

Laos

Thai Ambassador Hosts National Day Reception

BK0612123590 Vientiane KPL in English 0944 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 6 (KPL) - H.E. Nikhom Tantemsap, Thai ambassador to Laos and his wife, yesterday evening, gave a reception here to mark the 63rd birthday of H.M. [His Majesty] the King Phumiphon Adunyadet of Thailand.

Among Lao leaders who took part in the function, were H.E. [His Excellency] Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affaires, H.E. Sali Vongkhamsao, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of economy, planning and finance, H. E. Sisavat Keobounp, chief of the general staff of the Lao People's Army, head of the Vientiane Prefecture Administrative Committee, ministers, and high ranking officials.

Also took part in the reception were member of the dipomatic corps, representatives on the international organizations in Vientiane.

A toast was proposed to the King's happiness and longevity and to the good and time-honored neighbourly relations between Laos and Thailand. They also wished for consolidation of many faceted cooperation between the two countries.

Phoumi Receives National Day Greetings

BK0612124790 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 6 (KPL)—On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the president of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Mr. Li Xiannian sent a telegram of greetings to the president of the Lao Front for National Construction Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit.

Expressing congratulations and delight with the achievement the Lao people have scored over the past 15 years under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, the telegram conveyed the pleasure over the existing relations and cooperation between Laos and China and especially over the improved relations and cooperation between the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and the Lao Front for National Construction.

On the same occasion, the executive committee of the Lao Women's Union also received greetings from the women's unions of China and DPR [Democratic People's Republic] of Korea.

Greetings Received From USSR, MPR, DPRK

BK0512125290 Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 5 (KPL)—On the occasion of the 15th founding anniversary of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], the Lao leaders of the party and state have received congratulatory messages from the leadership of the party and state of the Soviet Union, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of Mongolia.

The Soviet leadership said in its message that Laos was advancing along [with] the profound change taking shape the world over and the corner stone of its foreign policy was designed to ensure peace, and stabilty in Southeast Asia and the global solution to the Cambodian issue. It praised Laos' increasing promotion of its ties of friendship with its neighbouring countries and others, and was satisfied with the further consolidated and strengthened Soviet-Lao relations on the basis of mutual understanding and necessity of rendering this relations more effective considering the effort to look for and apply a new effective form of cooperation with mutual benefit.

The leadership of the party and state of the DPRK acclaimed the 15-year achievements of the Lao PDR, which is now struggling for the perfection of the people's democracy and the promotion of socioeconomic development.

The Mongolian leadership expressed its conviction that the bilateral relations of friendship which is full of new meaning, corresponding with the restructuring effort, will be incresingly promoted.

Vo Chi Cong Presents Decoration to Kaysone

BK0312040890 Hanoi VNA in English 1553 GMT 2 Dec 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 2—A ceremony was held in Vientiane on the afternoon of December 1 to confer the Ho Chi Minh Order on Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers, on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

The presentation was made by President of the State Council of the SRV Vo Chi Cong. Among those present were Nouhak Phoumsavan, Politburo member of the LPRP Central Committee; president of the People's Supreme Assembly Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the LPRP and acting president of Laos; and other high Lao officials.

In his presentation speech, President Vo Chi Cong said that Kaysone Phomvihan has made great contributions to the cause of national liberation, construction and defence of Laos and to the special solidarity and friendship and all-round cooperation between the two parties, governments and peoples and between Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Highest Cambodian Medals Conferred on Leaders

BK0312104590 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Vientiane, December 3 (KPL)—The visiting delegation of the State of Cambodia yesterday conferred highest medals of the State of Cambodia "January 7" on Lao leaders. The conferment was made in recognition of the Lao leaders' efforts to promote the special friendship and all-round cooperation between Cambodia and Laos.

Among the recipients were General Khamtai Siphandone, Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC], vice chairman of the Council of Ministers [CM], and minister of national defence; Phoun Sipaseut, LPRP CC Politburo member, CM vice chairman, and minister of foreign affairs; Sisomphon Lovansai, LPRP CC Politburo member; General Sisavat Keobounphan, LPRP CC Politburo member, secretary of the party committee and mayor of Vientiane Prefecture; Sali Vongkhamsao, LPRP CC Politburo member, CM vice chairman, and minister of economy, planning and finance; Saman Vigna-ket, LPRP CC Politburo member, minister of education and sports; Maichantan Sengmani, LPRP CC Politburo member, head of the LPRP CC's Party and State Control Board; Oudom Khatthi-gna, LPRP CC alternate Politburo member, head of the LPRP CC Organisational Board; Colonel Gen Choummali Saignason, LPRP CC alternate Politburo member, first deputy minister of national defence.

The ceremony was also witnessed by other top Lao leaders.

In his speech, General Secretary Heng Samrin expressed gratitude to the Lao party, state and people for the support given to the Cambodian party, state and people in defeating imperialists and their stooges. He expressed deep appreciation for the close cooperation received and the active contribution of the Lao side to the liberation of Cambodia from the Pol Pot genocide regime, as well as for the thorough support to the Cambodian national defence and construction.

President Heng Samrin acclaimed the success and victory the Lao people have scored over the past 15 years in the development of a backward economy to the one with some remarkable success which he regarded as the Cambodian people's [as received].

On behalf of the Lao party and state leaders, Mr. Phoun Sipaseut expressed deep thanks to the fraternal Cambodian party, state and people for the honour done to them. He stressed that the conferment of the medals represented a stimulant to the Lao side to strive for the promotion of the fine traditional relations between the party, state and people of Laos and Cambodia.

Phoumi Vongvichit Addresses Front Meeting

BK0612122390 Vientiane KPL in English 0926 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 6 (KPL) - A two-day conference of the heads of provincial chapters of the Lao Front for National Construction throughout the country has ended.

Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] and also president of the Central Lao Front for National Construction, speaking at a closing session of the conference, congratulated the participants for their active roles in implementing the 4 main tasks of the front at the grass-roots level.

He also welcomed their susgestions made for the 1990 draft review of the front's activities and for the front's 1991 plan of actions, which will lay a basis for its enlarged conferences to be held in four points throughout the country.

Donation to Vientiane Security Forces Noted

BK0112051890 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] While preparing to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, companies, hotels, factories, and traders in Vientiane have given food and cash worth more than 2 million kip to the public security forces of the Vientiane Municipality, who are actively maintaining peace and social order in many localities throughout the municipality. The donation was aimed at contributing to the promotion of public security maintenance work and at giving moral support to the public security authorities so they can carry out their duty with brilliant success.

With regard to the said contribution, the public security forces command of the Vientiane Municipality has already extended its thanks to all contributors.

Kaysone Phomvihan Visits Vientiane Factories

BK3011122390 Vientiane KPL in English 0929 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 30 (KPL)—Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], on November 28 visited the Lao Textile Factory, the Phontong Handicraft Cooperative, and the Lao Knitwear Factory based in Vientiane Municipality.

The party general secretary on the occasion said appreciative words about these undertakings' cooperation with foreign countries, which represents a contribution to urging more foreign investments in the country and to bringing new and modern technolog to the country.

He also congratulated the managements and the staff of these production establishments for their effectiveness in producing goods for export and suggested that they should also promote agricultural production, a source of raw materials serving the production.

Phoumi Vongvichit Attends Acrobatic Shows

BK0412103690 Vientiane KPL in English 0857 GMT 4 Dec 90

[Text] Vientiane, December 4 (KPL)—The premier acrobatic show to open the Lao-Soviet friendship circus which has just been completed was performed here on November 30 in anticipation of the 15th founding anniversary of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic].

The performances, which from the very beginning to the end were full of excitement, were participated by acrobats from the Soviet Union, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.

Among the audience were Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit, LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee] Politburo member, Lao acting president, president of the Lao Front for National Construction, and president of the Committee for the Preparation of the 1990 four Grand Events; ambassadors of the Soviet Union, Vietnam and Cambodia to Laos; representatives of the international organisations in Laos. Starting since 1987, the construction of the circus receives two million rubles worth of gratis funds from the Soviet government and two hundred million kip from the Lao government.

Phoumi Vongvichit Greets Thai King on Birthday

BK0612124590 Vientiane KPL in English 0921 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Vientiane, December 6 (KPL)—The acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit yesterday sent a message of greetings to the Thai king, His Majesty Phumiphon Adunyadet, on his 63rd birthday and the national day of the Kingdom of Thailand.

In the message, the Lao acting president conveyed warm congratulations and best wishes to the Thai king and members in the royal family happiness and long life and also wished the entire Thai people good health and well-being.

He further wished the kinly and neighbourly relations between Laos and Thailand be consolidated and developed.

Trade Talks Held With Visiting SRV Delegation

BK0112050490 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] The delegation of the Trade and Tourism Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the delegation of the Commerce Ministry of the SRV held a meeting in Vientiane on 29 November to review and reassess trade relations between the two countries and problems on the cross-border circulation and transport of goods linked to the export and import of goods and attempts to take the opportunity to avoid inspection by authorities concerned.

The delegations also discussed other issues, especially on the new economic changes aimed at transforming the economic structure to conform to the new mechanism with a view to encouraging all sectors to more increasingly participate in goods production.

LPDR Minister of Trade and Tourism Khamphoui Keoboualapha and SRV Commerce Minister Hoang Minh Thang, together with technical experts of the two sides, attended the meeting.

Houang Minh Thang and his delegation arrived in Vientiane on the morning of the same day to hold trade talks with our Lao side.

Further on Trade Talks

BK0712032490 Hanoi VNA in English 1507 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 6—A delegation of the Vietnamese Ministry of Commerce led by Minister Hoang Minh Thang visited Laos from November 29 to December 4.

The delegation was received by Sali Vongkhamsao, Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP) Central Committee and vice chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers. It had working sessions with Khamphoui Keoboulapha, member of the LPRP Central Committee and minister of trade and tourism, and Phao Bounnaphon, member of the LPRP Central Committee and minister of external economic relations. The two sides reviewed goods exchange and trade cooperation between the two countries in 1990 and discussed measures to further promote them during 1991-95.

On December 4, Vietnamese Commerce Minister Hoang Minh Thang and his Lao counterpert Khamphoui Keoboulapha signed a note at their meeting in Vientiane and an agreement on basic principles concerning trade management, goods exchange and trade service between Vietnam and Laos.

SRV Party-State Group Departs

BK0512054490 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] The high-level party and state delegation of the SRV led by Comrade Vo Chi Cong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of State, left Vientiane for home yesterday afternoon after ending a friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and attending the celebration ceremony marking the 15th anniversary of the LPDR.

A ceremony to see off the state guests was held at Wattai international airport. Attending the ceremony were Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau and acting president of the republic; Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs; and Comrade Sisavat Keobounphan, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, secretary of the party committee, and chairman of the administrative committee of Vientiane Municipality; along with other comrade party and state leaders and a large crowd of high-ranking Lao cadres. The send-off ceremony was held in a very warm atmosphere of close friendship. Nguyen Xuan, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV, together with other embassy staff members and a number of Vietnamese residents in Laos, were also on hand to see the delegation off at the airport.

Friendship Delegations Leave for SRV, USSR

BK0512052690 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] On the afternoon of 30 November, a delegation of the Lao-Vietnamese Friendship Association led by Bouasi Lovansai, deputy minister of communications, transport, posts, and construction and vice-chairman of the association, left Vientiane for Hanoi, capital of the SRV, to attend a celebration ceremony marking the 15th anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] by invitation of the Vietnamese-Lao Friendship Association.

Earlier, on 28 November, a delegation of the Lao-Soviet Friendship Association led by Comrade Mrs. Boun-gna Phimsavat, member of the Standing Committee of the Lao Front for National Construction Central Committee and vice-chairwoman of the association, also left for Moscow, the Soviet Union, to attend a celebration ceremony marking the 15th anniversary of the LPDR.

The two delegations attending the national day celebrations in the said countries are part of the implementation of the cooperation agreements signed between the Lao friendship associations with the friendship associations of the countries concerned.

Protocol on Development Plan Signed With France

BK0612125390 Vientiane KPL in English 0917 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 6 (KPL)—A French mission led by Mr. Xavier Blandin, deputy director in charge of bilateral affairs of the Treasury, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Budget, ended a 3-day talk here on December 4-6 with a Lao delegation led by Mr. Thongphachan Sonmanisin, director of cabinet, Ministry of Foreign Economic relations.

The sides signed a protocol on the French government's 25 million francs aid to Laos concerning the projects of socio-economic development. They are namely central telex, wireless beam, improvement of the training centre of the Electricite du Laos, and study of hydro-power dam, all designed to facilitate Laos' economic development.

The sides were satisfied with their talk. They considered that the result of the talk represented an additional factor for the strengthening of economic cooperation between the two countries. This will facilitate the working out of future projects of common interest.

Burmese Foreign Ministry Official Arrives

BK0412154090 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 4 Dec 90

[Text] This afternoon, His Excellency [H.E.] Ohn Gyaw, deputy foreign minister [title as heard] of the Union of Myanmar and chairman of the joint Myanmar-Lao border committee, and his party arrived in Vientiane to pay an official visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] at the invitation of the LPDR Foreign Ministry.

At Wattai Airport, the Myanmar delegation was warmly welcomed by H.E. Souban Salitthilat, deputy foreign minister and chairman of the joint Lao-Myanmar border committree, and a number of high-ranking Lao authorities concerned.

On the same afternoon, H.E. Ohn Gyaw called on Souban Salitthilat at the Foreign Ministry.

The visit to the LPDR by the Myanmar delegation is the continuation of the consultative talks on the demarcation of the border line between the two countries, which were held in Rangoon in August.

Talks on Common Border Held

BK0612122590 Vientiane KPL in English 0932 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 6 (KPL) - The talks between the Lao and Myanmar [Burma] Joint Border Committees was held here yesterday afternoon.

The talks focussed on defining the common border between Laos and Myanmar in a hope of turning it into a border of friendship, stability, and good neighbourliness.

The Lao side to the talks was led by Mr. Souban Salitthilat, deputy foreign minister and president of the Lao-Myanmar Border Committee and the Myanmar side by U Ohn Gyaw, deputy foreign minister and president of the Myanmar-Lao Border Committee.

The Myanmar delegation yesterday morning also paid a courtesy call on Mr. Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs.

The first round of talks was held in Rangoon, Myanmar, in August.

Health Minister Discusses Anti-AIDS Measures

BK0412094390 Vientiane KPL in English 0855 GMT 4 Dec 90

[Text] Vientiane, December 4 (KPL)—As a contribution to the international community's activities against AIDS, a lecture on AIDS was given here on December 1, the International Day Against Aids, by Khambou Sounisai, minister of public health, also chairman of the National Commission for Anti-AIDS.

He spoke of the worldwide effort against AIDS with focus on establishing communication network in 1988 on preventing AIDS among young people in 1989, and among women in 1990. In addition, he pointed to the potential threat of AIDS in particular among women which women themselves have to be aware of and actively take part in the effort of fighting against AIDS worldwide.

Touching on the activities made against the disease in Laos, the minister said different measures had been taken over the years, especially the publication of AIDS' cause, danger and prevention through print and audio-visual media and public meetings.

Philippines

Probe of Two Clark Air Base Servicemen Urged

HK0712045990 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon has asked Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus to look into the case of the two servicemen who were involved in the violent dispersal rally that took place recently at Clark Air Base in which two persons were killed. Drilon said Manglapus should ask the U.S. Embassy to give him a referral to study the case of U.S. Marine Sergeant David (Akers) and 1st SPL [expansion unknown] Gary (Muttler) which should be submitted to the Criminal Juristiction Implementation Commission [SJIC] for investigation. The SJIC is an agency composed of American and Philippine officials which decides whether the base authorities or the Philippine courts will rule on cases involving American soldiers committing crimes in the country.

IMF Said To Want Economic Program Implemented

HK0612054590 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao announced the Aquino government must first implement its economic reform program which includes revenue generating measures and should raise the price of petroleum products again before it can avail itself of the $700-million financial aid from foreign creditor institutions. According to Estanislao, the International Monetary Fund would only act depending on the government's implementation of its economic programs. Secretary Estanislao explained that to be able to comply with the IMF proposal, the government must amend Executive Order 432, to increase the present tax duties for all imported products including petrol to seven percent.

Rise in Overseas Workers Remittances Reported

HK0612032190 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 6 Dec 90 p 1

[By Alex Reyes, reporter]

[Text] Overseas workers' remittances through the banking system topped the billion-dollar mark as of end-October to reach $1.008 billion, according to data from the Central Bank [CB]. The 10-month total already surpasses the whole-year mark of $1.002 billion in 1989, previously the highest on record.

CB economists expect the 1990 whole year figure to reach between $1.2-1.3 billion. Much of the increase is due to the banking system being able to capture an ever-growing share of the remittance business at the expense of informal channels.

More and more banks are now turning their energies towards tapping the lucrative dollar in flows, previously shunned by them because of the high transaction costs associated with the retail nature of the operations.

Aggressive pricing and marketing, as well as matching the timeliness of courier services, has allowed the banks to steadily increase their share of the remittance business.

With remittances proving to be a mainstay source of foreign exchange, banks that can increase their market share of the remittance business will have a competitive advantage into the nineties as the economy will continue to suffer from an acute shortage of foreign currency.

The growing number of Philippine workers abroad also accounts for the increased dollar inflows. In the United States alone, where around half of all remittances comes from, the Philippine population is estimated to be between 1.5 million to 2 million.

A banker told BUSINESS WORLD that to some extent the Gulf crisis contributed to the increase in remittances.

Although displaced workers from Kuwait and Iraq led to a drop in remittances from those countries, he said workers from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states sent home larger amounts during the months of September and October, in order to assure that some of their savings would be safe from a shooting war.

After the invasion of Kuwait, some workers were unable to convert their earnings as the Kuwaiti currency became unconvertible.

Aquino Appeals for Calm After Oil Price Hike

HK0612020390 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino appealed to the people to stay calm and be strong in this time of crisis following the price increase of petroleum products, saying this can not be avoided due to the Middle East conflict. The president explained that the ERB [Energy Regulatory Board] is a quasi-judicial body and she can't dictate to them what to do. However, she requested the reduction in the price of diesel, gas, and liquified petroleum gas because these are the prime needs of the majority of the people. ERB Chairman Marcelo Fernando stated he cannot rule out the possibility of another round of crude oil price increases in the event war erupts in the Middle East.

Ramos: Contingency Plans in Place for Protests

HK0712033990 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 7 Dec 90 pp 1, 8

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] The military has implemented contingency plans to safeguard oil facilities and distribution networks from rebel attacks, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said yesterday.

In a press briefing, Ramos said the military was able to accomplish this despite short notice given by the Energy Regulatory Board (ERB) on recent oil prices, now nearly double their former price.

The military is expecting protest actions and terrorist activities by both leftist and rightist groups to "exploit the situation."

As if to meet the military's expectations, militant groups yesterday announced that they would mark the start of a Welgang Bayan with a jeepney strike in Metro Manila today.

They are demanding for:

—The rollback of oil prices to September 21 levels.
—The nationalization of the oil industry, and closure of Caltex and Pilipinas Shell.
—The resignation of Transportation and Communications Secretary Oscar Orbos, whose plan to deregulate the transport industry would mean the phaseout of jeepneys.

The 160,000-strong Pinagisang Samahan ng mga Tsuper at Operators Nation-wide (Piston) [United Organization of Drivers Nationwide] and the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) are heading the strike. Other groups supporting the strike are the 300,000-strong Ugnayan ng mga Grupo at Asosasyon sa Transportasyon (Ugat) and the Alliance of Concerned Transport Organizations (PCDO-Acto).

Also today, the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) will hold protest marches to press for the removal of the U.S. bases.

Expected to be hardest hit by the transport strike are the Cubao, Monumento and Pasay routes, which Piston drivers dominate.

Work stoppages, sympathy strikes, noise barrages and street protests are expected to accompany the strike, KMU chairman Crispin Beltran said.

Labor leaders expect the strike to spread to the provinces and turn into the biggest and longest ever Welgang Bayan in the country.

In response, the Capital Regional Command (Capcom) said it would deploy 30 cars, each with five soldiers, to maintain peace and order in the metropolis.

Brig Gen Marino Filart, Capcom chief and director of the Metropolitan Police Force, said at least two soldiers or policemen would be fielded in passenger buses and jeepneys to prevent torching, as in the previous welga. Filart ordered his men to exercise maximum tolerance, but added that persons caught burning vehicles would be arrested.

To ensure this, Filart instructed all police superintendents and Capcom sector commanders to deploy the biggest possible number of men to monitor movements of both rightist and leftist rebels.

Beltran said the KMU would temporarily put off its plan to ask for another wage increase.

He said the current strike aims "to express our deep indignation over the staggering oil price increase."

More Policemen, Soldiers Deployed

HK0712034790 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] A nationwide protest movement is being planned by militant labor organizations by means of a jeepney strike, to start today and continue until Monday. This is expected to paralyze transportation throughout the country and is the result of the latest oil price rises.

However, moderate labor unions have been employing peaceful means to air their protests. Labor Secretary Ruben Torres said members of the Labor Advisory Consultative Council, the Trade Union Council of the Philippines, and the Lakas ng Manggawawa [Workers' Strength] Labor Center have told him they are open to dialogue, during this time when the effects of the price increases are still being observed.

Meanwhile, PISTON [United Organization of Drivers Nationwide] Chairman Menardo Roda said 300,000 drivers nationwide will join the strike on Monday. He said they are not striking in order to ask for increased fare prices but to ask for a rollback of fuel prices to their 21 September level.

In related developments, PC [Philippine Constabulary] Capcom [Capital Regional Command] chief Brigadier General Marino Filart said 700 policemen will be deployed throughout Metro Manila to forestall any forms of terrorism which may be employed by the protesting labor groups next week. He added that more policemen and soldiers will be deployed to guard jeepney and bus terminals and to serve as escorts for public utility vehicles. The Capcom chief said the policy of maximum tolerance will be observed in the face of any violent eventualities resulting from the planned nationwide strike. He said he would allow protesters to air their grievances, but this should be done peacefully.

Three Senators Call for Aquino Resignation

HK0712041190 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 7 Dec 90 pp 1, 2

[By Madelynne Dominguez]

[Text] Three senators, saying they doubted President Aquino's claim that she did not know beforehand that the Energy Regulatory Board [ERB] was going to raise oil prices by an average of 45 percent last Wednesday, yesterday called for her resignation but this was not supported by their colleagues.

Mrs. Aquino, however, tossed the blame to Congress for inducing the steep increases because of its resistance to her administration's package of new tax proposals aimed at raising more revenue to meet the growing fiscal deficits.

Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, Ernesto Maceda and Orlando Mercado accused President Aquino of trying to fool the people when she disclaimed knowledge of the ERB price hike order.

In a privilege speech, Enrile, the lone oppositionist in the chamber, said: "I do not believe she can fool the people with an obvious efforts to wash her hands and avoid responsibility for the problem," in reference to a televised appeal Mrs. Aquino made to the ERB to reconsider the prices set for diesel, industrial fuel and liquefied petroleum gas.

Enrile added that if indeed the President did not know of the ERB's drastic decision, then she has lost control of government and should now leave the presidency. "To make such a claim is to admit that the President is just like the ordinary man or woman in the street who has no way of knowing what is really happening in Malacanang these days. What is the President for?" Enrile said.

Enrile maintained, however, that this could [be] a ploy by the administration to bolster Mrs. Aquino's waning popularity. "This is a zarzuela" [comic-opera] and Mrs. Aquino and her subalterns, specially the energy officials, are part of it, he said.

Mercado, for his part, said that if the President had prior knowledge of the price increase order, then her move to seek our consideration of the decision was a charade. In his own speech, Mercado, Senate trade and industry committee chairman, claimed that the price increase order was a "prescription for national suicide."

He warned the increase in oil prices together with the government's implementation of other "bitter pills" prescribed by the International Monetary Fund could create "a dam of human emotions rising to revolutionary levels." He said President Aquino's resignation could prevent "bloodshed from spilling into the streets."

Mercado also disclosed that the IMF conditionalities for the release of a $700 million loan would, result in the following:

—an additional 60 centavos on top of the ERB-ordered increases in oil prices because of the seven percent levy on oil imports;
—further devaluation of the pesos to P35 to $1; and
—additional taxes to road users and timber cutters.

Maceda said that it was ridiculous for Mrs. Aquino not to know of the ERB order since the ERB is under her office. "If she doesn't know what is happening in her office, then I have been proven correct in saying that it is time for her to go," Maceda said.

Senate President Jovito Salonga said, however, that the price increase was a bitter pill the people had to swallow.

He said the increase, in effect, removed the burden on the government of paying $90 million a day to subsidize oil prices.

"As long as Congress is unwilling to raise revenue by increased taxes on the richer sector of the society that can afford them, only one alternative is left to us—a higher pump price," Mrs. Aquino said in brief statement which observers said tended to absolve Malacanang of any blame over Wednesday's decision by the Energy Regulatory Board to raise oil prices to unprecedented levels.

Mrs. Aquino said that being an oil importing country, the Philippines had only two ways to react to increasing oil prices: set the price at levels on par with the world oil price or maintain the government subsidy for oil firms to keep prices at desired levels. The Chief Executive did not elaborate on her point about Congress's unwillingness to act on her tax proposals.

Meanwhile, militant, sectoral and cause-oriented groups under the Coalition Against Oil Price Increase will hold simultaneous protest actions today that is expected to lead a Welga ng Bayan next week to press the government to roll back oil prices to December 5 levels.

The 160,000-strong Pinagkaisahan Samahan ng Mga Tsuper at Operators Nationwide [PISTON-United Organization of Drivers Nationwide] will start a nationwide transport strike on Monday as it said that an initial transport strike will begin today. PISTON chairman Medardo Roda said they expect to paralyze 90 percent of jeepney routes in the Marikina-Cubao-Quiapo-Divisoria and Meycauayan-Monumento-Divisoria-Pier routes.

In other developments:

—The 250,000-strong Federation of Jeepney Operators and Drivers Associations (FEJODAP) is appealing to President Aquino to defer the recently approved oil price hike or face the consequences of a nationwide people's strike.

FEJODAP president Romualdo Maranan also said that the federations members would not file any petition for fare increases with the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board because this would defeat their call for a rollback in the oil price increase.

Maranan asserted that there are not enough grounds to warrant the "outrageously high" increase in the prices of oil.

—Church leaders branded the recent oil price hike as "immoral, un-Christian, and illogical" given the coming Christmas season.

Auxiliary Bishop Teodoro Bacani said that the extremely high oil price increase will definitely diminish the people's enthusiasm for Christmas.

Executive Director of the Ecunemical Bishops Forum, Bishop Estanislao Abainza, for his part reiterated the Protestant church's support for mass actions meant to dramatize protests against the oil price increase.

"The act of increasing the price of oil this Christmas season, is an act of treachery on the part of the government because President Aquino in her September 21 statement assured the people that there will be no oil price increase during the Christmas season," Abainza stressed.

Bacani, head of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines' Episcopal Commission on Public Affairs, bewailed over what he sees as "inadequate consultation among the people by government."

Leaders of the Labor Advisory Consultative Council [LACC] and Trade Union of the Philippines [TUCP] in a meeting called by Labor Secretary Ruben Torres, pressed for a three point agenda for the dialogue with President Aquino "to be scheduled the soonest the possible time."

Their demands include an adjustment in wages of workers, immediate imposition of price controls as well as strict monitoring of prices, and placing of controls in housing rentals.

KMU [1st May Movement] Chairman Crispin Beltran disclosed that the KMU does not discount the possibility of another Welgang Bayan with the support of cause-oriented groups like the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan League of Filipino Students, College Editors Guild of the Philippines.

However, the TUCP and moderate labor leaders of the LACC decided to "keep our options open on mass actions," and instead, asked for a dialogue with President Aquino and the employers' group. The LACC and TUCP leaders will meet the Employers Confederation of the Philippines at Manila Hotel at 8:00 a.m. today and with President Aquino this afternoon.

Beltran dismissed the dialogues and transferring of increases to premium and regular gasoline as "mere palliatives" stressing that "nothing good will happen to the people if they will not unite and call for the immediate rollback."

"Kasumpa-sumpa ang ginawa ng pamahalaang Aquino sa atin. Masyadong mainit ang sitwasyon, lalong nagpuputok ang butse ng mga manggagawa kung dadaanin na naman sa mga dialog na walang kahihinatnan [The Aquino government has done a deplorable thing the heated situation is an explosive one among the workers, and holding another dialogue will lead nowhere]," Beltran pointed out.

'Disarray' in Response to Economic Crisis Viewed

HK0712034190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 7 Dec 90 pp 1, 8

["Analysis" by Armando Doronila]

[Text] The key political institutions of the democratic restoration of President Aquino are responding inadequately to severe economic crisis. In particular, Congress and the immature party system are proving to be a drag in forging a unified front to confront the crisis; and the disharmony between the Executive and Congress over urgent economic reforms poses a formidable obstacle to the formulation of a political will.

Nothing discloses this disarray more glaringly than the dissonance between the presidency and congressional leaders over new tax measures designed to make up for the enormous public sector deficit. How the nation is going to wipe out this deficit is crucial to the release of fresh loans now being negotiated with the International Monetary Fund to provide relief to the deteriorating economy. New revenue measures, as well as more efficient tax collection, are a key element in persuading the IMF to release fresh funds because there is evidence of a political will behind efforts to close the deficit.

After a series of meetings between President Aquino and congressional leaders, in which there seemed to have been a consensus that tax measures were needed to raise revenues, House leaders said the understanding was not for new taxes to be enacted but only for a "restructuring" of the taxation system. They emphasized the age-old refrain of conservatism embedded in Congress—efficient tax collection, which has nothing to do with the redistribution of the tax burden.

There is pending in the House a package of tax measures to raise revenue, including one seeking to impose higher taxes on professionals (whose incomes can be hidden). President Aquino has linked these new tax measures to the increase in fuel oil prices, saying that, unless these were enacted, pressure to increase oil prices would continue.

Thus the ball is in the congressional court, the arena in which lobby groups, like landed interests and professional groups, can exert pressure to prevent the shift of the tax burden from the middle income and low income groups to the more affluent.

The divergence between the Executive and Congress over taxation is a function of the malformation of the party system. The anomaly is accentuated by the fact that there are three political parties in Congress which claim to be supporters of the government but which have, in fact, been working at cross purposes with it over such issues as economic restructuring and the military bases. Thus, what the government perceives in terms of support in Congress is a phantom. In effect, there is no party of government in Congress accountable either to the President or to the people in terms of party policies and platforms, which do not exist. This unresponsive and irresponsible arrangement is aggravated by another condition—a presidency that tries to be aloof from and above the parties.

President Aquino's detachment from the parties or the party most supportive of her—the LDP [Struggle of Philippine Democrats]—precludes formation of party discipline. Thus, if she presents to Congress presidential initiatives to cope with crisis—such as tax measures—she cannot whip the majority in the House behind the program because there is no institutional relationship between her and the LDP.

The LDP leadership chooses its own priorities independent of and in isolation from the President. It is not accountable and responsible to the President. So, the President finds herself isolated from congressional support on crucial issues such as tax reform and finds difficulty pushing her urgent measures in Congress.

Unless this relationship is rectified in such a way that the majority party and the President have clear and identifiable interests, the disarray will continue. Obviously, the rectification calls for the President to abandon the notion that she is above parties. Presidents do not run a government from heaven.

Parties are the vehicles for the articulation and aggregation of policies and interests and for the translation of these policeis into concrete programs. Parties give coherence to such interests.

The disarray between Congress and the Executive underlines the point that the key political institutions of a democracy, whether transitional or not, cannot effectively cope with economic crisis unless they achieve coherence over policy and responses.

Aquino Said Concerned Over Nueva Ecija Tension

HK0612052790 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino told the Department of Local Governments not to meddle in the investigation of the killing of Cabanatuan City Vice Mayor Eduardo 'Danding' Joson III. According to Presidential Spokesman Adolf Azcuna, the president is greatly concerned with the tension gripping Nueva Ecija. In this regard, the president promised to personally intercede to lessen the tension in the province.

Meanwhile, the military has moved to disarm all the political clans in Nueva Ecija in an effort to stem the bloody encounters in the province. Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos has ordered the cancellation of all special gun permits and the setting up of military checkpoints in the province and suburbs. Ramos said he will try to dismantle warlord groups, not only in Nueva Ecija but in other parts of the country.

Aquino Approves 72-Hour Truces With All Rebels

HK0612030990 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 6 Dec 90 p 9

[By Lito Zulueta, staffmember]

[Text] President Aquino approved last night the suspension of all military offensives against the armed left and right for the Christmas season, officials said.

The President overruled the recommendation of Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos for a 48-hour truce for the Christmas and New Year by adopting the resolution of Cluster E, the Cabinet committee on security, for a 72-hour suspension of military offensive.

Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III said that the truce would be observed from 1 p.m. of Dec. 23 to 1 p.m. of Dec. 26 and from 1 p.m. of Dec. 19 [as published] up to 1 p.m. of Jan. 2.

Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon, Cluster E chairman, said that the lengthened truce was a sign of government's desire to end all forms of insurgency peacefully. "The President approved the lengthened period. I am happy about this development," Drilon told Malacanang reporters.

National Security Director Rafael Ileto earlier said he would support a limited truce with both communist and military rebels during the Christmas holidays.

"I think it's good to have peace in all fronts so that we Filipinos can celebrate Christmas together," Ileto said.

Ileto made the statement as Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos recommended to President Aquino a "suspension of all offensive military operations" against the communist insurgents for Christmas Day and New Year's Day nationwide.

Ramos said that the limited truce would be from Dec. 24 to Dec. 25 and Dec. 31 to Jan. 1. The defense chief said that the government was not calling the suspension of military offensives a ceasefire to avoid according the rebels belligerency status.

Ramos said that the suspension would be without prejudice to normal law enforcement to secure public utilities and other important installations.

Since 1987, the government has been declaring Yuletide truces with the guerrillas. In 1986, the government and the rebels declared a 60-day ceasefire from November 1986 to February 1987 to pave the way for peace talks that eventually collapsed.

Earlier, Rep. Gregorio Andolana (North Cotabato), a left-wing lawmaker, proposed a three-week ceasefire with the communists for the duration of the Christmas season. But Ileto said that Andolana's proposal was impractical since there would be no assurance that the rebels would not attack.

Rebels Subject to Arrest During Cease-Fire

HK0612065990 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0612 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] We have a report here from the National Defense Department about the declaration of a cease-fire. Here is Josette Olivera with her report.

[Begin recording] [Olivera in progress] ... duties of the military and police in maintaining the peace and order situation in the country in the cease-fire declared by the government. This was the explanation given by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos today in a news conference about the cease-fire which President Corazon Aquino declared.

Ramos said that although there would be a suspension of the military offensive for 72 hours on Christmas day and another 72 hours during New Year, authorities still had the power to conduct security and pursuit operations. He said this was for the protection of all citizens and important installations in the country from any threat coming from groups which plan to incite violence. Ramos said that the difference between this and the previous order last year of a unilateral cease-fire was that this year's cease-fire had a longer period than the previous one. Because of this, any communist or military rebel may be arrested during the cease-fire once discovered by any police or military authorities.

[Ramos in English] However, all military units must remain in a high state of readiness and are authorized to conduct security operations to include hot pursuit in case of attack or [word indistinct] of the peace by any hostile group. [end recording]

Antirebel Campaign Said To Displace Thousands

HK0612032790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 6 Dec 90 p 9

[By staff member Redempto Anda]

[Text] "I knew the soldiers had raped four girls from our place. I myself would have been raped had not an uncle of mine, a Cafgu [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Units] member, intervened."

This was the testimony of Dina de Leon, 22, a farmer's wife from Barrio Duran, Bubon town in northern Samar.

She has joined a hundred other victims, called "internal refugees" by a human rights group, in a rights vigil in front of the Batasan complex in Quezon City. They come from various parts of the country and were brought to Metro Manila by the Philippine Alliance for Human Rights Advocates (Pahra).

They have different stories to tell, but they share a common fate: all are victims of the war between government and communist rebels.

They are demanding for:

—A congressional investigation into alleged forced evacuations of civilians caused by anti-insurgency operations in the countrysides.
—Suspension of all military operations in civilian areas, to allow the refugees to return home.
—Indemnification for all victims displaced by the government anti-insurgency campaign.

They are blaming the "total war" policy of the government for the displacement of the families.

The Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace (EMJP) is sending a "mercy mission" to the Marag Valley in the Cordilleras to look into the reported deaths of 50 children, due to measles and dysentery, inside caves where they sought shelter from a major military offensive. Around 300 families from Marag Valley had abandoned their homes because of the offensive.

The EMJP said over 113,000 persons have been uprooted from their homes due to massive military operations since the start of 1990.

CPP-NPA, Military Clashes' Casualties Noted

HK0712082490 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 7 Dec 90 p 7

[By Fer Taboy, Homer Camiling, Chris Manansala, and Teddy Brul]

[Excerpt] Fifteen persons were killed in clashes between the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army] and the military in separate encounters in northern Mindanao, Samar and Bicol.

This was reported yesterday by Major General Cesar P. Nazareno, Philippine Constabulary [PC] and PC-INP [Integrated National Police] chief, based on reports from the said areas.

According to the report, eight NPA members, four soldiers, a miltiaman, and two civilians were killed in the encounters. In addition, three civilians were injured by stray bullets.

Lieutenant Colonel Bartolome Baluyot, chief of the PC-INP in Agusan del Sur, reported that seven rebels were killed in a 15 minute clash at Barangay Santa Cruz, Rosario when an NPA camp at the Marasigan Rubber Plantation was raided.

Military authorities were unable to identify the slain rebels but confiscated various types of guns and ammunition and 976 pesos, which they suspect was collected from the townsfolk in the said area.

In Samar, the PC-INP reported that five military personnel and two civilians were killed in an encounter in San Mateo.

Killed in the fight were Staff Sgt. Jorge Agsucan; Constable Second Class Roquelito Alvaira, Ricardo Bachao, Mario Ballete; militiaman Alfredo Lopina; and two still unidentified civilians.

Three civilians were seriously wounded in the said encounter and were identified as Antonio Naparate, Ignacio Jatulan, and Sebastian Jatulan.

In Bicol, a rebel was killed in an encounter at Sitio Pequena, Barangay Cagbacong, Legaspi City and was identified as Eugenio Alvarez, alias Ka [Comrade] Jun.

Meanwhile, military authorities were able to seize a communist training camp which is suspected of being the training ground for fierce NPA members at San Vicente, Davao del Norte.

Brigadier General Oswaldo Villanueva, commander of the 6th Infantry Division, said that the camp was composed of 30 huts composed of six barracks, 50 classrooms, 50 mess halls, a basketball court, a cadre building, and a huge bamboo based water system.

Meanwhile, the Constabulary was able to capture three NPA members and 10 others who surrendered during recent raids at Barangay Parian, Mexico and Barangay Santa Rita, San Luis, Pampanga.

In a report submitted by Captain Lester O. Camba, chief of the 173d PC Company, to Brigadier General Manuel Bruan at Camp Olivas, those captured were identified as Rolly Gatchalian y Tayag, alias Comrade Edu; Alberto Santos, alias Comrade Bok; and Anilo Manalo, alias Comrade Falcon, who were operating in the towns of Mexico, San Luis, Candaba, and Arayat.

Those who surrendered after the three had been captured were identified as Pablo Gatchalian y Castro, alias Comrade Mel; Francisco Gatchalian y Castro; Elpidio Sumang y David; Virgilio Taruc y Caliwag; Jose Taruc y Mendoza; Eduardo Lagman y Tayag; Rodrigo Sumang y David; Pepito Cortez y David; Jesus Survi y Gonzales; and Ramon Manuyag, alias Comrade Rex. [passage omitted]

Troops Seize Davao NPA Training Camp 6 Dec

HK0712032790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 7 Dec 90 p 8

[By Wilma Yamzon]

[Text] Army troops seized a big training camp of the New People's Army (NPA) in San Vicente, Davao del Norte, reports reaching Army headquarters at Fort Bonifacio in Makati said yesterday.

A report to Maj Gen Guillermo Flores, Army chief, by Brig Gen Oswaldo Villanueva, 6th Infantry Division commander, said troops seized the training base of the NPA after weeks of surveillance on rebel movements in the area.

Villanueva said NPA cadres were reported to be undergoing a three-month advance training in communism when attacked by government forces.

The training began last Oct 6 and was set to end on Dec 26, the 22d founding anniversary of the Communist

Party of the Philippines (CPP), it was reported. The training was aimed at improving the organizational skill of cadres along political lines, the military said.

It said the NPA "Abanteng Kursong Opisyal" (Advance Course for Officers) had about 250 students.

Villanueva said assaulting troops from the 602d Infantry Brigade led by Col Danilo Olay seized 30 huts which served as barracks, a 50-man classroom, a mess hall, a basketball court, a building, and a bamboo-based water system.

Rebels fled their camp after infomration leaked that they would be attacked by Army troops.

Soldiers found explosive chemicals, two sacks of training materials, two generators, and many subversive documents.

Villanueva said soldiers were still hot on the trail of fleeing rebels. Reports said the rebels were attempting to cross a neighboring province near the headquarters of the 4th Infantry Division in Cagayan de Oro City in Misamis Oriental, but Army troops had been positioned on their routes.

More blocking forces were deployed yesterday in other possible areas of withdrawal by communist guerrillas.

Wescom Said To Clear NPA From Palawan Town

HK0712033190 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 7 Dec 90 p 1

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Puerto Princesa, Palawan—The island town of Agutaya in Palawan has been liberated by troops of the Western Command (Wescom) from the control of a new rebel unit called "Bagong Brigada Ng Barangay" (BBB) established by the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm, the New People's Army (NPA).

Brig. Gen. Braulio Balbas, Western Command chief, said the BBB which was led by Efren Rodrigo alias Ka [Comrade] Allan had earlier established control of barangays Albesaras and Concepcion on the island town of Agutaya, Palawan.

Balbas reported that government troopers overran a rebel camp in Concepcion. The camp had complete facilities, including a training area, lecture rooms, and officers' quarters.

Lt. Col. Esturio Gualberto, Palawan PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] commander, following instructions from Balbas to investigate the presence of NPA guerrillas in Agutaya, reported that the rebels kidnaped and killed a village resident, identified as Toto Alunid.

Balbas also ordered the deployment on the island of the 4th Naval District under Capt. Antonio Sulatos, while the Air Force unit led by Col. Periaco Reconquiesta provided helicopter gunships.

Eleven officers of the Bagong Brigade ng Barangay were arrested and their firearms confiscated. Some 40 followers and sympathizers were also arrested and interrogated by military investigators.

Thailand

Chatchai Reportedly To Resign To Solve Crisis

BK0712025590 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 7 Dec 90 p 22

[Text] At 2200 on 6 December, our correspondent gave an urgent report on the latest development on the possibility of a Cabinet reshuffle amidst the political confusion. He reported that at this time, Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan has decided to solve the current political crisis by resigning from the prime minister's post to be able to form a new government freely. He made the decision after rounds of consultations with a number of political parties in the coalition government, and all the parties assured him that they would support his return to the pime minister's post after his resignation.

The reporter added that after sounding out reactions from the coalition parties, all of which have pledged their support on his return to the prime minister's post, General Chatchai has now planned to submit a letter of resignation as prime minister within a day or two or within the week.

Chatchai is confident that his resignation would enable him to form the new government independently because as new prime minister he would no longer be committed to the coalition parties as in the past. The commitment has led to various kinds of political problems. On his comeback, he will be completely free to form a government without any worries or obstacles caused by principles or regulations of each coalition party.

Minister Denies Rumors of Upcoming Reshuffle

BK0612140390 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha denied rumors that he would be transferred to the Finance Ministry and that the prime minister would concurrently hold the interior minister post. He said that there was still no reshuffling of ministers among coalition parties.

[Begin Banhan recording] The news report was not correct. Nothing has happened. I am still the interior minister. The prime minister probably cannot hold the Interior Ministry post since he concurrently holds the defense portfolio. Although the Chat Thai Party has adopted a resolution authorizing a cabinet reshuffle, nothing has been done. The party authorizes me, the prime minister, and [Industry Minister] Praman

[Adireksan]. But, we still have not yet discussed the cabinet reshuffle. I do not know where the news came from. It is not true. I would like to deny it. It only causes confusion. It would be no good for our country if such rumors persisted. Now there are still no changes. [end recording]

Premier Reportedly Holds Meeting With Army Chief

BK0712020390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Dec 90 p A1

[Text] Premier Chatchai Chunhawan last night tried to arrange for a candid meeting with army chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun to patch up their conflict caused by army uproar against controversial Cabinet member Pol Capt [Police Captain] Chaloem Yubamrung.

However, there were conflicting reports whether the duo actually met or not. Government sources said the meeting took place in an undisclosed venue while a military source denied it.

Reporters watching the activities at the premier's Ratchakhru residence said the house appeared quiet. Chatchai also failed to show up at the Regent Hotel to attend a reception hosted by Chawarat Chanwirakun, chairman and chief executive officer of Sino-Thai group of companies, last night although reporters saw a limousine said to be the premier's pull out of the residence.

Parliament President Wan Chansu also reportedly tried to get former army chief and New Aspiration Party leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut to join the dinner.

The move came as the premier was probing options on a Cabinet reshuffle proposed by a major faction led by Pol Gen Praman Adireksan. The faction reportedly was unhappy with secretary general Banhan Sinlapa-acha and wanted him removed from the powerful Interior post.

Praman's faction also told Chatchai that a Cabinet reshuffle would provide an opportunity for him to resolve or at least ease tension with the military by dropping Chaloem, now deputy education minister, and transferring Banhan and Social Action secretary general Montri Phongphanit from their interior and commerce portfolios respectively. This would conform with the military view, the faction believes.

The priority option is to bring opposition parties, Solidarity in particular, into the coalition to facilitate redistribution of Cabinet seats among coalition partners. But Solidarity has counter-proposed that the premier first resign. Samak Suntharawet, the leader of the Prachakon Thai Party, also ruled out the possibility of his party joining the coalition government.

As a result of the opposition parties' responses, the prospect appears strong that the reshuffle would involve only the present coalition partners. It is also probable that the three non-MP [member of Parliament] Cabinet members—Finance Minister Wiraphong Ramangkun, Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on and Deputy Interior Minister Pol Gen Wasit Detkunchon—would be dropped to pacify Chat Thai and SAP [Social Action Party] MPs.

The scale of the Cabinet reshuffle, expected to be wrapped up this weekend, remains unclear.

Chatchai wants Chat Thai, SAP and the Democrat Party to swap Cabinet posts to facilitate the transfers of Banhan and Montri to some important posts.

Options on Banhan's new post are finance and industry while Montri's options would be agriculture and commerce. If Montri agreed to take the agriculture post, his communications post would go to Chuan Likphai, the deputy leader of the Democrat Party. Montri was quoted as telling the premier that he was ready to change his post if the Chat Thai secretary general agreed to do the same thing. Candidates to the interior portfolio are Praman and Deputy Premier Pramuan Saphawasu because Chatchai has refused to take over the post. Pramuan, meanwhile, can also be appointed to the industry post.

However, SAP may not go along with re-distribution of Cabinet posts among the three partners given SAP leader M.R. Kuhkrit Pramot's veiled threat to pull the party out if Chatchai effects a sweeping Cabinet reshuffle.

SAP Pressures Commerce Minister on Rice Prices

BK0712023590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Dec 90 p A1

[Text] Acting on behalf of Social Action Party (SAP) leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot, seven SAP MPs [members of Parliament] yesterday gave the prime minister 15 days to order Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on to ensure a guaranteed price for paddy by means of market intervention.

Failure to meet the demand, the MPs threatened, would mean the government would "face retaliation" by the second largest coalition partner.

The move was seen as a continued attempt of SAP MPs to pressure Amaret into quitting. The non-MP minister was appointed under the SAP quota in the August Cabinet shake-up.

Amaret, who was attending the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks in Brussels, said yesterday he was not bothered by efforts to remove him from office.

The commerce minister said he would accept any sacking fatalistically. He said he was not concerned by the accusation that he had failed to prevent rice prices from falling. If rice prices had risen, his critics would have formed other grounds for complaint, he said.

The seven SAP MPs led by deputy party leader Chanchai Chairungruang, Roi Et MP Rawi Hiranchot and Kalasin legislator Aphichat Halamchiake submitted a letter, signed by Khukrit, to Government House addressed to Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan.

The letter demanded the paddy price guarantee but did not mention what they wanted as the minimum price for the grain.

It was presented to PM's [Prime Minister's] Secretary General Gen Wanchai Chitchamnong as Chatchai was not in Government House.

The SAP MPs said Khukrit had prepared "retaliatory measures" if the deadline was not met. However, the MPs declined to elaborate on the measures.

The move came less than a week after a SAP meeting which had been expected to be a session for its MPs to grill Amaret.

The meeting held on Nov 30, which Amaret failed to attend, formed a committee, chaired by SAP secretary general and Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit, to study the problem of the declining price of paddy.

Montri was said to be behind the SAP's disgruntled MPs who were against Amaret's appointment. Aphichat, who has been actively campaigning against Amaret since he took office, is known to be close to the communications minister.

After submitting the letter, Rawi who is the ad-hoc committee's secretary general, called a news conference to say that yesterday's move followed the Nov 30 meeting's resolution to have the committee study and try to solve the problem. He said this year paddy's price was lower by some Bt1,000 a ton than last year when it was about Bt4,200.

While saying that several governemnt agencies were responsible for solving the problem, Rawi directed his attack on the Commerce Ministry. He said the ministry was directly responsible for shoring up the paddy price by finding more overseas market for the crop.

Rawi said the ministry should intervene in the rice market by stepping up its effort to buy the crop from farmers and exporting the product as soon as possible. But, he charged, the ministry has not yet launched any move to improve the price.

The prime minister who is Amaret's immediate boss should order the commerce minister to immediately launch market measures to try to boost the price of paddy, Rawi said. He said farmers were satisfied with the price when the ministry was under SAP's control. However, Rawi denied that yesterday move was aimed at recapturing the SAP's Cabinet seat.

SAP deputy spokesman Chanchai said the government should put aside a large sum of money to intervene in the rice market. He said farmers were very badly affected by the declining price as their cost of living had soared sharply following two petrol price increases after the Gulf crisis broke out in August.

The SAP MP's move yesteday coincided with speculations that the three non-MP Cabinet members who were invited to join the current Cabinet will be left out in a new Cabinet reshuffle expected soon. Apart from Amaret, the ministers are are Fiannce Minister Wiraphong Ramangkun and Deputy Interior Minister Pol Gen Wasit Detkunchon.

Editorial Criticizes SAP Tactics

BK0712025190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Dec 90 p A8

[Editorial: "SAP Shows No Scruples"]

[Text] The writing is clearly on the wall: Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on is being forced by the Social Action Party [SAP] to resign.

That the second largest government party wants to regain control of this key economic ministry is no secret. But the callous method it is using to humiliate and put pressure on Amaret is nauseating. Worst of all SAP leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot took a direct part in the scheme—or at least he allowed his SAP followers to invoke his name.

It was not pure coincidence that SAP stepped up its attack to unseat Amaret at a time when the prime minister has been contemplating a major Cabinet reshuffle. SAP "lost" the post of commerce minister in a reshuffle last August when the prime minister brought in Amaret, an ex-vice president of Siam Cement Co, along with two other outsiders to help improve the administration's image.

Though this angered many SAP MPs, [members of Parliament] especially those who subsequently found Amaret "uncooperative" when they couldn't get any special favours from him, the selection of Amaret received the full backing of M.R. Khukrit. As a matter of fact, M.R. Khukrit personally called Amaret on the phone and offered him the commerce post first before the prime minister called to confirm the offer.

In spite of Amaret's appointment, SAP still retains the right to claim the commerce portfolio as it didn't get an additional ministerial post in return for its acceptance of Amaret. But there are more subtle ways for the party to take back the commerce post. A phone call from M.R. Khukrit to Amaret is more than enough. A more indirect way is for M.R. Khukrit to ask the prime minister to tell Amaret to leave.

What SAP is doing instead is completely unacceptable, uncharacteristic of a party which has always claimed to have high political principles and a gentlemantly leadership. First some SAP MPs began by complaining to their party leadership about Amaret not paying enough attention to their "requests" for assistance—which in most cases would have involved dispensing special favours. They seem to have forgotten that Amaret, who is neither a SAP member nor an MP, took the job to work for the entire coalition government and for the country, not just for SAP.

The SAP MPs started clamouring about rising prices and faulting the commerce minister for his "failure" to tackle the problem. The movement to discredit Amaret became almost an open SAP policy when M.R. Khukrit formally ordered the formation of a special committee inside the party to "find ways to resolve the problems of farmers hurt by falling paddy prices." The committee is headed by Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit, the party secretary general, and is assisted by Foreign Minister Subin Pinhkhayan, the ex-commerce minister. The Montri committee is supposed to present its findings to the prime minister within seven days—that is, by tomorrow.

Amaret seemed to take the serious affront in stride and left for Brussels earlier this week to attend the GATT meeting. SAP then took a second stab to Amaret's back yesterday when the party spokesman released to the mass media at Government House M.R. Khukrit's letter to the prime minister asking him to order the Commerce Ministry to take emergency action—by means of market intervention measures - to boost the sagging paddy price.

In the letter, SAP claimed credit for paddy price support programmes introduced by commerce ministers in the past few years. It contended the programmes were instrumental in keeping the price at least Bt1,000 a tonne higher than its present level. The letter put in record SAP's concern for the plight of poor farmers, particularly those in the Northeast, being hurt by rising cost of living and falling paddy price.

Why the price of paddy is falling is too complicated an issue to discuss here. Suffice it to say that it is partly a perennial phenomenon brought on by the advent of a new harvest season. Unfavourable conditions in the world rice market have also contributed to a depressed price.

Perhaps sensing that a snap general election may be just around the corner, SAP may want some publicity to improve its image, which was badly damaged by the dismissal of two of its junor ministers from the Chatchai administration last August.

If it really feels that not enough government assistance has been given to the farmers, then the National Rice Policy Committee—not the Commerce Ministry—is to be blamed. Incidentally, the policy committee is headed by Deputy Prime Minister Thongyot Chitwira, the 81-year-old chief adviser to SAP.

SAP indeed had a great deal of experience in running the Commerce Ministry before Amaret. But it had far from a splendid record. The Public Warehouse Organization's debilitating loss—to the tune of over Bt3 billion—in paddy price support programmes happened to be incurred while SAP men were at the helm of the Commerce Ministry. When it mentioned additional market measures to support prices, SAP was certainly not thinking about its own disastrous programme. And for that matter, not all the SAP commerce ministers left such a favourable impression. One SAP minister was forced to resign and a deputy commerce minister was sacked in connection with corruption scandals.

Now M.R. Khukrit and his party are leaving Amaret—a relatively effective minister with a good record—with no better choice than to resign.

New Police Unit Targets Drug Trade Bosses

BK0612014190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Dec 90 p A2

[By Sirod Sukphinyo]

[Text] The newly-created Narcotics Suppression Command has launched a campaign to go after and arrest the financiers of drug trafficking, a source from the police unit said yesterday.

The source said the police's drug suppression unit would step up efforts to find out who was really behind trafficking once drug couriers were arrested. Police usually arrest the couriers but fail to track down the financial backers of the heroin trade.

The source said the campaign has been launched in the North where the notorious Golden Triangle, straddling Thailand, Laos and Burma, is located. A large proportion of the heroin in the world market is believed to originate in the triangle.

He declined to disclose the campaign's progress for fear it might hurt police operations, saying only that it was "satisfactory". He added tnat the drug command was planning to expand the campaign to the rest of the country.

The command was upgraded from the police's narcotics suppression centre by the Police Commission in September with the Cabinet approving its establishment later.

The creation of the command was dismissed by critics as an attempt to create new posts to facilitate this year's police promotion. They said the new command has not been well-prepared in terms of manpower, equipment or location and the posts for the organization were created "out of thin air".

The source admitted the new command is facing difficulties in screening and finding officiers capable of carrying out the unit's operations.

The organization's officers are responsible for suppressing millions of baht worth of drugs and so it is possible they might be tempted by large bribes offered by drug lords, the source said. He said many police divisions were trying to push their men into the drug command but did not elaborate.

The command has to cooperate with the Office of the Narcotic Control Board [ONCB], which is under the jurisdiction of the PM's Office, in fighting the drug trade.

As a way to fight the illegal activities, the ONCB has proposed a draft legislation which would empower authorities to seize the property of convicted financiers of drug trafficking. The bill has passed its second reading in the House of Representatives.

Underlining the current drug suppression situation, Police Regional Headquarters 4 Commander Pol [Police] Lt Gen Chan Rattanatham said yesterday southern police had been able to arrest only drug pushers and not their bosses. He said police needed more funds to launch intelligence gathering operations to find out who were the major traffickers.

—The Public Health Ministry announced yesterday that over 2,000 northern people were being treated for drug addiction.

Hilltribe people constituted 54 per cent of those addicted to heroin, the ministry said in a press release.

The situation was reported to Deputy Public Health Minister Prayun Suraniwong who inspected a drug-addiction rehabilitation centre in Chiang Mai provinces Mae Rim district recently, according to the release.

Official, Nigerian Envoy on Drug Smuggling Issue

BK0712033390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Dec 90 p A2

[Text] A group of Nigerian officials will come to Bangkok soon to work out measures with Thai officials to curb drug smuggling attempts by Nigerian nationals, Deputy Foreign Minister Amnuai Yotsuk said yesterday. There are currently 120 Nigerians in Thai jails on heroin smuggling charges.

Amnuai said the message was conveyed to him by Nigerian Ambassador to Thailand Aisha Jimeta during a meeting at the Foreign Ministry yesterday. Amnuai quoted Ambassador Jimeta as telling him that the team was just waiting for guidelines and approval from the Nigerian government.

The deputy minister said according to Jimeta, the Nigerian government had adopted stringent measures to discourage its people from such attempts. The measures include a restrictive visa screening process for those wishing to go to Thailand. Jimeta was also quoted as saying that the Nigerians needed to ensure that they would not cause any problems and had enough money before they were allowed to go to Thailand.

Moreover, Nigerians who are convicted of drug smuggling in Thailand face further jail terms upon their return home, the ambassador was quoted as saying.

The Thai minister said he told Jimeta that Thailand appreciated her governemnt's attempts to curb the problem but questioned whether the reimprisonment measure would work.

The Nigerian ambassador also expressed concern that some innocent Nigerians were being arrested in police round-ups of drug couriers, he said.

The ambassador said that innocent people had on some occasions been staying with suspected couriers in guest houses in Bangkok. She said her government would provide Thai authorities with information to prove certain individuals' innocence. She expressed regret that Thailand had to bear the burden caused by Nigerians jailed on drug charges.

In response, Amnuai said that Thailand was willing to cooperate with Nigeria to see that no innocent people are arrested. But Amnuai said he also defended the fairness of the Thai courts in the verdicts they had handed down. "We would prefer to free 10 guilty people than to jail one innocent person," he said he told the Nigerian ambassador.

The Nigerian ambassador, who is based in Manila, has visited Bangkok twice following a spate of arrests of Nigerians on drug trafficking charges to seek ways with Thai officials to settle the problem.

—Customs officials arrested an African man holding a Nigerian passport and seized 2.9 kilogrammes of heroin from him yesterday at the provincial airport on Phuket Island.

Phuket Airport customs office said the heroin was found inside the door of a refrigerator owned by Mike Nnamdi Obiorah, 23. The man reportedly was about to board a Tradewind flight to Nigeria via Singapore and Amsterdam and applied for customs clearance to load the refrigerator in the cargo section of the same flight.

Ease in Restrictions on USSR Ties Approved

BK0512034490 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] Thailand has decided to adopt a more flexible policy towards the Soviet Union following radical political changes in the communist world.

The Thai Cabinet yesterday approved a new policy that will ease restrictive measures of various government agencies previously designed to protect Thailand from the Communist threat, informed government sources told the BANGKOK POST.

Under the newly adjusted posture, the Thai Government will, among other things, encourage the private sector to deal with the Soviet Union and enable private firms to freely explore business and investment opportunities there with confidence that their contacts will receive government backing.

The business community will be assured that their ventures will not jeopardise the country's political considerations.

The Govenment will also lift the ban on social science education in the Soviet Union for Thai students, the sources said.

In addition, restrictions on Thai officials travelling to the Soviet Union will be eased. Under the current regulations, Thai officials travelling to the Soviet Union must have their trips authorised at ministerial level, while their journeys to non-socialist countries can be approved by a permanent secretary.

The Cabinet agreed that expanded contacts and relations can materialise now that the Socialist empire has crumbled, while the economic and military changes within the Soviet Union have reduced the country's hegemonic strength.

This new policy outlook was formulated by the National Security Council's policy board of agencies dealing with both civilian and military affairs, and submitted for Cabinet approval yesterday.

The change is tantamount to Thailand lowering the guard it raised in defence against the Soviet Union's previous attempts to spread communism, sources said.

"Our concern over such attempts has subsided almost totally. We therefore are lowering our guard, opening up for more exchange, and easing constraints on communications," one source said.

The overall policy guideline will serve as a framework for various government agencies to relax restrictive practices accordingly.

The new flexibility towards the Soviet Union was extended despite the fact that Thailand ought to be wary to some extent because the Soviet Union is still "in transition," one source pointed out. However, the Cabinet agreed that the adjustment for the transition is probably in line with the sweeping changes.

"In the past, we were afraid of being infected, but now the germ has grown weaker, while our body is stronger," a source said.

Although the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1954, Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov was Moscow's first leader to visit Thailand in February this year.

The bilateral trade volume in 1989 amounted to US$482 million, representing a dramatic increase from US$100.6 million in 1988, with the trade surplus on the Thai side.

Daily Signs Agreement With SRV Press Agency

BK0712030590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Dec 90 p A2

[Text] THE NATION yesterday signed a cooperation agreement with the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA) that provides for an unprecedented editorial link-up between an Asian daily newspaper and the official Vietnamese news agency.

Through this link-up, THE NATION will be able to offer its readers a faster and more comprehensive news coverage of Vietnam and the rest of Indochina.

The agreement, which will also provide training for Vietnamese journalists, was signed in a ceremony by Suthichai Yun, THE NATION's editor-in-chief and publisher, and Ho Tien Nghi, deputy director general of VNA, in the presence of Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Trung.

Suthichai lauded the agreement as a milestone in Thai-Vietnamese media relations. The two news organizations will provide active assistance to and cooperation between each other's editorial staffs in the pursuit of a better understanding of their countries, he said.

Nghi said the agreement is the first of its kind between VNA and a news organization in a non-socialist country. He said that it is important that Vietnam learns as much as possible from other Southeast Asian countries. With the cooperation, he said, VNA coverage of Southeat Asia will be strengthened.

Under the agreement, THE NATION will help arrange training in Thailand for Vietnamese journalists. "We have a lot to learn from our Thai colleagues," Nghi said.

VNA has already inquired about opening an office in Bangkok. It would be the first VNA office in non-communist Southeast Asia.

Interviews VNA Official

BK0712081390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Dec 90 p A5

[By Sonny Inbaraj]

[Text] Vietnam hopes to gain Thailand's expertise in the field of journalism and newspaper production, and also wants to emulate the success of the Thais in transforming a basically agrarian economic structure into that of a newly-industrialized country.

In an interview with THE NATION yesterday, Ho Tien Nghi, deputy director-general of the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA), said the English-language media in Bangkok normally gives a good perspective of the events happening around ASEAN and the rest of the world. "It's basically because of the big coverage of the press here that I can say the press here gives a rather balanced, true and fair view of events," he said. "Whether Thailand realizes it or not, Bangkok is often viewed as the gateway to ASEAN in terms of news-gathering."

In the view of the strategic importance of Thailand in terms of regional news-reporting, the VNA has entered into a cooperation agreement with THE NATION for the exchange of news and photographs and the basing of correspondents in Bangkok, Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh city.

Nghi said, the editorial policies of THE NATION appealed to VNA. "We in Vietnam realize that we have so much to learn in terms of regional reporting from the paper and also how it is produced through computerized systems. "This mutual cooperation will be good for us because all the while we have been exposed to a biased Western reporting by the foreign news agencies. THE NATION would help us see the Third World side of the region, which is very important to us because after all we are Asians and need to see the world through 'Asian-eyes'," said Nghi.

The VNA operates in all the major cities in Vietnam, and there are correspondents in about 44 provinces in the country. Abroad it maintains bureaus in the Soviet Union, China, Germany, France, India, Algeria, the United Nations, Japan, Laos, Cambodia, Egypt and Cuba.

Nghi also said Vietnam was also trying to make in-roads into ASEAN through mutual economic cooperation. "We have isolated ourselves for too long and we feel that we have been out of touch with the economic realities that have been happening so fast around us," he said.

"Thailand's economic success could serve as an example to us. How the Thais transformed their economy that was totally dependent on agriculture into that of a newly-industrialized country could serve as an inspiration to the Vietnamese." "We thought we were so proud after defeating France and the United States.

"But after 1975, we have still been poor and our people are still in need. Vietnam for instance was a major rice-grower but until recently we still had to import rice to feed our people. That's sad but it's true.

"As such we have to learn from Thailand on how the Thais have been first self-sufficient in food production before they went on a path of industrialization."

On the winds of change sweeping through Eastern Europe, Nghi said economic reforms had to have first priority before political reforms.

"Economic reforms are very important to us and we cannot follow the example of East Europe where political reforms have come first. The average Vietnamese basic needs have to be satisfied. If he is hungry then he is an angry man and would lose all rationality with the end result that he loses faith in the leaders," said Nghi.

"When stomachs are full, only then can we talk of political reforms. The unification of Germany could best serve as an example, with many East Germans out of jobs, hungry and pouring into the west. Nobody talked about economic reforms then. The Germans wanted political change, and change they got. But at what expense?"

Operating Hours of Border With Malaysia Extended

BK0612144090 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Thailand and Malaysia have agreed in principle to extend the operating hours of border checkpoints along the common border of the two countries in order to promote trade and tourism between the two countries, Thai Ambassador to Malaysia Rongphet Sucharitkun disclosed yesterday. The Thai ambassador said that the border committees of the two countries will make a final decision during a meeting to be held in Thailand next month. At present, Malaysia's immigration checkpoints open for the peoples of the two countries to travel to each other's country from 0600 to 1800. In the future, Malaysia will extend its operating hours from 0600 to 2200 while Thailand will extend the operating hours of border checkpoints along the border with Malaysia from 0500 to 1700 local time to 0500 until 2100, which will correspond with Malaysia's operating hours because Malaysian time is one hour ahead of Thailand's.

The Thai Ambassador to Malaysia also said that the Thai and Malaysian foreign ministers will cochair the meeting of the border committees of both countries next month.

Vietnam

Further on Spokeswoman's Cambodian Remarks

BK0612160190 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 6—"Vietnam's position on an overall political solution to the Cambodian problem is constant and clear-cut," said Mrs. Ho The Lan, spokeswoman of the Foreign Ministry of Vietnam at a regular press conference held here this afternoon.

Asked to comment on a report by the Chinese news agency XINHUA from Bangkok on December 3, 1990 that the Foreign Ministry of the National Government of Cambodia has blamed Hanoi and Phnom Penh for their objection to the UN proposal, she said:

"We welcome the efforts of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to accelerate the search for a solution to the Cambodian question and its framework agreement for such a solution. In the follow-up efforts, the concretization of the framework agreement must be the task of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) with the participation of the Supreme

National Council (SNC) and the other countries participating in the Paris International Conference, a fair and reasonable overall political solution to the Cambodian issue must conform to the reality in Cambodia and be based on the respect for the independence, sovereignty and self-determination of the Cambodian people and such a solution must conform to the UN Charter aimed at building a peaceful, independent, neutral and non-aligned Cambodia without outside interference and the threat of genocide. Their spirit is reflected in the Vietnam News Agency reports on the recent consultative conference between Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and the Soviet Union."

Mrs. Ho The Lan stressed: "Allegations about Vietnam's objection to the proposal of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council on the Cambodian issue are completely groundless. Vietnam has agreed on an important role to be played by the United Nations in a political solution to the Cambodian question. However, the UN activities must be based on the full respect for the UN Charter and the sovereignty of Cambodia, a member state of the United Nations."

Eighth National Assembly Session Continues

More on Vo Van Kiet Report

BK0612153790 Hanoi VNA in English 1441 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 6—Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet has stated that the intital success of the renovation policy has created a new economic momentum and a strategic position for the release and development of economic potentials.

His remarks came in the report of the Council of Ministers on the economic situation in 1990 and the 1991 socio-economic development plan presented to the 8th Session of the Vietnam National Assembly (8th legislature) which opened here yesterday morning.

The report noted that since early 1989, the country's economic mechanism has shifted to the market mechanism under the management and control by the state and significant success have been obtained such as controlling the spiralling inflation and gradually improving the people's living conditions.

In agriculture, paddy output rose from 18.2 million [metric] tons in 1985 to 21.5 million tons in 1990, of which 1.5 million tons were exported this year. Total export value in the five years from report said that in the recent three years, the Vietnamese Government has granted licenses to nearly 200 investment projects with a total capital of 1.4 billion U.S dollars.

On the production of consumer goods, the industrial establishments at the centre and in the provinces have gradually adapted to the market mechanism and a number of commodities have been able to compete with imported goods though productivity of industry over the past two years has increased too slowly.

The report went on:

"While the achievements in economic renovation have deeply impressed many foreigners the achievements in political stabilization along the growing trend of democratization are also appraised by them as another success of renovation in this country."

The report stressed:

"The most all-embracing objective of 1991 is to consolidate and develop by all means the achievements recorded in 1990, strive to overcome new difficulties in the socio-economic field, not to let major upheavals occur in order to generate a posture for faster and steadier development in the following years."

It is necessary, the report added, to concentrate on major targets namely an increase of 5.6 percent of the gross national product (GNP), 5.8 percent of the national income, 6 percent of the value of industrial, small industrial and handicraft production, 4.5 percent of agriculture and at least 16 percent of the export value.

"In 1991, we shall take one step further in the application of the multi-sector economic structure. Based on the market relations and for business interests, the state sector, joint-stock companies, cooperative, individual and private economy household economy, shall integrate themselves into an economic structure operating in the framework of and in accordance with the state orientations, plans and strategy.

"In the contest of Vietnam's market situation, the continued granting broad rights to autonomy to the localities is a judicious policy. However, there have appeared here and there the state of scatteredness resulting from the pursuit of local interests and interests of a guild type. We should make it clear that the market economy also necessitates the unified guidance by the state. Therefore, a line must be drawn and responsibilities and powers must be clearly delimited therefrom to define a new balance in the power structure and ensure a unified guidance from the centre.

"As regards consumer industry and processing industry, the state will pursue the subsidisation policies towards state-run and other economic sectors which have stood the challenge of the market with a view to achieving higher efficiency. To put enough foreign exchange in the import of cotton for the textile mills (in addition to developing cotton growing in the country), to encourage the import of means of production, modern technologies, and small-scaled machines for the light industry, small and handicraft industries and the export food processing industry.

"In export, our main lines remain crude oil, maritime products and rice. The export of rice must be based on careful calculations to balance supply and demand on the home market. In 1991, 230 million U.S. dollars is the target for the export of maritime products, a major resource which needs to be better exploited. Besides those three items, the state will promulgate policies to encourage all economic sectors to engage in export industries. We shall step by step establish zones and branches specialized in export industries and subcontracting export products. To take part in associations of and agreements on international export, to seek their technical assistance at the same time to seek agreement with other countries in market allocation and price protection.

"In import, it is necessary to spend an appropriate portion of the foreign exchange earned through exports on the import of the four most important items, namely gasoline, fertilizer, steel and cotton. The import of those four items will be allocated and regulated by the Council of Ministers in order to ensure the interests of the exporter, importer and consumer as well.

"Those state-owned enterprises which suffer continual losses will have to be transferred to another form of ownership or reorganized along with the initial development of the monetary market and permission for foreign banks to open their branch offices in Vietnam and the promulgation of new regulations on foreign exchange in conformity with the ordinance on banking and the working out of new financial policies.

"In external economic relations: We will implement the 1991 plan in the context of very complicated changes in the international and regional situation but also with the emergence of new favourable conditions.

"The profound crisis and fundamental renovation of the relation mechanism among the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, especially the Soviet Union, have posed new and big questions for us. We have lost an important international privilege. However, this situation befits our new international business relations. Efforts must be made to overcome this immediate difficulty and create favourable conditions for long-term relations. The question is that we must take the initiative.

"Our initial successes in renovation are valued highly by world opinion. Vietnamese volunteer troops have totally withdrawn from Cambodia and the Cambodia issue is entering the stage of resolution. This has opened possibilities for us to broaden our foreign economic relations. The embargo policy against Vietnam is still there but in the common trend there have appeared signs that it is no longer as effective as before. Recently, the European Economic Community has established official relations with Vietnam. Signs of improvement have also been seen in our relations with international financial and monetary organizations such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Asian Development Banks, etc.

"We shall promote the results gained in 1990, vigorously broaden our external economic activities, increase the export value by at least 16 percent, regarding it as one of the determinant measures to balance our budget and overcome difficulties. We will continue seeking foreign aid and drawing in more foreign investments."

Communique No. 3

BK0712113790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Communique No. 3 of the Eighth National Assembly's Eighth Session]

[Text] In the morning of 7 December, the National Assembly met in plenary session at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao. The National Assembly heard:

1. Comrade Nguyen Hoa, acting chairman of the Economic, Planning, and Budget Committee of the National Assembly, on behalf of the committee, read a report on the implementation of the 1990 socioeconomic plan and state budget, and on the 1991 socioeconomic tasks and state budget estimates.

2. Comrade Nong Duc Manh, vice chairman of the Nationalities Council of the National Assembly, on behalf of the council, read a report on the situation of the highlands and the regions inhabited by the ethnic minorities, and on urgent and long-term problems that should be resolved.

3. Comrade Tran Do, chairman of the Culture and Education Committee of the National Assembly, on behalf of the committee, read a report on the problem of selective investment in the cultural and educational fields.

4. Comrade Nguyen Dinh Tu, chairman of the Science and Technology Committee of the National Assembly, on behalf of the committee, read a report on the policy of science and technology in commodity production in 1991 and subsequent years.

5. Mrs. Ngo Ba Thanh, chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the National Assembly, presented some views of the committee on the strugle against corruption and smuggling.

In the afternoon, National Assembly deputies began to work in groups. On the afternoon of Tuesday, 11 December, they will hold a debate in the Ba Dinh Conference Hall.

Session Continues 7 Dec

BK0712055590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Today, 7 December, the eighth session of the Eighth National Assembly continued its plenary session at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi. National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao chaired the session.

In the morning session, National Assembly deputies heard Comrade Nguyen Hoa, acting head of the National Assembly Economic, Planning and Budget

Committee, report on the socioeconomic and budget plans; Comrade Nong Duc Manh, vice chairman of the National Assembly Nationalities Council, report on the situation of the mountain regions and ethnic minority affairs after implementing resolution No. 2 of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Political Bureau and other solutions of the National Assembly; Comrade Tran Do, head of the National Assembly Culture and Education Committee, report on effective investment in the educational and cultural domains; Comrade Nguyen Dinh Tu, head of the National Assembly Sciences and Technology Committee, report on science and industry policy for the production of goods in 1991 and the following years; and Mrs. Ngo Ba Thanh, head of the National Assembly Judiciary Committee, report on her committee's viewpoints on curbing corruption and goods smuggling.

This afternoon, National Assembly deputies will work in groups to discuss our country's strategy on socioeconomic stabilization and development up to the year 2000 and the orientations and plans for the 1991-95 five-year socioeconomic development program.

'Article' Views MIA Issue, U.S. Relations

BK0612125990 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Unattributed "Article on the Solving of the MIA Issue"]

[Text] Vietnam and the United States are actively solving the MIA issue. For many years, the two sides have made contacts to solve this issue and other humanitarian issues relating to the two countries. But only in the recent years the settlement of this issue was fruitful. Especially after the meeting in Washington between Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Generel John Vessey, special envoy of the U.S. President, the MIA was accelerated by both sides. After this meeting, specialists of the two countries met in Hanoi to discuss concrete measures in solving the MIA issue. On 20 November, Vietnam handed over to the U.S. the number of American remains collected in the 11th joint search. Eight days later, the U.S. sent a delegation to Vietnam to carry out the 12th joint search, which lasts for 20 days. On 7 December, the Joint Vietnam-U.S. Experts Team for Forensic Medicine and Identification will carry out the third identification of the remains collected in Ho Chi Minh City. At present, the two sides have working plans for the next year. Under their agreement, Vietnam and the United States will carry out their 13th joint search in mid-January 1991.

Along with the settlement of the MIA issue, there were notable developments in other fields, such as the trading between the two countries. American businessmen visited Vietnam to survey the possibility of trading and investment. They have seen with their own eyes the chance to do business with Vietnam, especially in oil and gas industry, tourism, aviation, and so forth. According to the French news agency AFP on 2 December, the U.S. investment in Vietnam was worth 1.9 million dollars and it is the 19th biggest investor in Vietnam.

The U.S. presence in Vietnam [words indistinct] is in a project of enlarging an oil refinery in Ho Chi Minh City. However, positive results in solving the MIA issue and in several bilateral relations between Vietnam and the United States were not so great and not equivalent to the magnitude of relations between the two countries. They were only one of the indications that the Vietnam-U.S. relations could have been greatly improved. Political circles and people in the U.S. have acknowledged this reality and they want the U.S. Administration to promote the process of normalization of relations with Vietnam. House Representative Solarz, president of the Asia-Pacific Subcommittee of the External Relations Committee of the House of Representatives, disclosed that this year he had to receive many representatives of American business circles who asked him whether the Americans are pushing the goalposts farther and have the U.S. authorities added more conditions for the establishment of relations with Vietnam.

It is enthusiastic that at present the policymakers in Washington have a new look and approaches in its relations with Vietnam. The differences should not be obstacles to the process of normalization of relations between the two countries. On the contrary, the existing differences should be solved through negotiations. Vietnam has the same idea and wishes that the Vietnam-U.S. relations should be solved in the future with mutual understanding, goodwill, and cooperation from both sides.

More on Draft Socioeconomic Strategy

Second Installment

BK0512114190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 Dec 90

["Draft strategy of socioeconomic stabilization and development up to the year 2000"—second of five installments. First installment was published in the 6 December East Asia DAILY REPORT, page 63, under the headline "Draft Socioeconomic Strategy, First Installment"]

[Text] 4. [as heard] Service-based support economy: We should expand the service-based support economy into an important sector both in the urban and rural areas, vigorously develop the potentials of various economic sectors, and increase the proportions of support services in both economic mechanism and labor structure.

We should bring trade into play in order to meet requirements for good exchanges, especially in those difficult-to-access areas, increase the state-run trade sector in wholesales, in the supply of technical materials, and in the transportation and stockpiling of certain essential goods.

We should vigorously shift transportation service to the commercial system, quickly develop various kinds of services catering to tourism such as air and sea transportation, trade, banking, and insurance. We should also promote scientific and technological transfer, economic information and commercials, legal investment, and the export of labor and experts. We should develop tourism by exploiting the attraction of nature as well as the abundant cultural heritage of the country.

5. Economic, cultural, and social infrastructure: We should improve, upgrade, and broaden the communication and transportation network with priority given to developing waterway transportation, increasing the capacity of a number of existing sea and river ports, building more deep-sea ports in the north and the south along with developing various means of waterway transportation, including ocean-going ships, and consolidating and upgrading the north-south rail line and the inter-country road network.

As for the overland road network, we should upgrade a number of main communication axes, especially National Route Nos. 1 and 5, and build a number of important bridges on these routes. We should also improve other national routes, guarantee uninterrupted all-season traffic over various inter-provincial and inter-district roads, and develop rural and mountain communications.

We should cooperate with foreign countries in developing civil aviation in domestic flights and in certain international routes and promptly modernize international airports.

We should modernize and improve our international telecommunication capabilities, ensuring smooth domestic communications and liaison activities down to key areas with the attention to be paid to offshore islands and difficult-to-access areas.

We should attach importance to the building of the cultural and social infrastructure both in urban and rural areas with the emphasis placed on building houses and ensuring water supply for everyday life, material bases for scientific research and for educational and cultural activities.

II. [as heard] Orientations for Economic and Cultural Development in Various Areas

The overall strategy points out the orientations for bringing into full play the strengths of various areas and for speeding up the process of shaping up various specialized production areas. On this basis, we should work out strategies for large regions aimed at substantiating regional economic structures in the direction of developing most effectively the strategic strengths of each region and each area as part of the country's general strengths. This will serve as a basis for the division of labor cooperation and economic integration between various localities.

Each province and city should base itself on the planned orientations in the national and regional strategies in working out socioeconomic development plans for its respective area; reasonably arrange the production and investment structures in the direction of exploiting advantages and natural socioeconomic conditions; mobilize all the resources of economic components in the locality concerned and promote economic cooperation and integration with other localities, including with foreign countries.

The central government and various localities should jointly invest in various areas and establishments in order to produce early results. Meanwhile, the central government should assist those areas beset with difficulties as well as to those sensitive areas in national defense, a number of mountain areas, and former revolutionary and resistance bases.

The orientations for the specialization and for general development of various areas are as follows:

As the lowlands occupy the foremost position in the production of food—paddy, subsidiary food crops, and foodstuffs—short-term industrial crops, and fruit crops, we should pay attention to growing various kinds of medium-size trees in order to obtain firewood and to protect and improve the ecological environment. We should make animal husbandry a main production sector, develop processing industry, shape up a diverse economic structure, renew the division of labor by redistributing the population within provinces and sending people to other provinces; develop rural industries, and expand service-related support professions.

State investment capital is used mainly for water conservancy work and the construction of infrastructure. The Mekong River delta must develop its strong position as the country's largest grain producing region with a high investment efficiency and many marketable products for domestic consumption and export. The Red River Delta must develop its potentials in terms of intensive cultivation and grain and food production along with vigorously developing animal husbandry, the processing industry, and various small industrial and handicraft branches and trades. The central coastal region must improve its capacity of intensive cultivation, while adjusting its crop allocation and cultivation seasons to reduce losses usually caused by natural calamities and effectively combining the agricultural economy with the maritime-based economy. The eastern Nam Bo region must develop its advantage in long-term and short-term industrial crops.

Although the midland and mountainous regions account for three-fourths of the country's total area of natural land and have great potentials for economic development, they are still rife with great socioeconomic difficulties. The direction for development is to switch to the consumer economy and develop the advantages of mountainous regions in forestry, industrial crops, fruit trees, livestock breeding, and mineral exploitation. We must concentrate human and material resources on covering uncultivated land and bare hills with greenery and forming specialized cultivation areas that can undergo self-development and can vigorously draw the sources of labor from other localities.

While exploiting natural resources, we must also exert efforts to preserve and recreate these resources and protect the environment and pay attention to ensuring the interests of the people of various nationalities. We must gradually improve the capacity of processing of agricultural and forest products on the spot to help enrich the mountainous regions and minimize difficulties in transportation.

We must solve the grain problem on the basis of the viewpoints concerning the consumer economy and must not advocate the effort to achieve self-sufficiency in grain at any cost. Apart from selecting the crop allocation and animal species in a way that suits the characteristics of each region, it is necessary to ensure that agriculture and forestry are developed effectively.

We must also develop the advantages of the midland and mountainous regions, which are rich in mineral resources and serve as the main centers of many heavy industrial sectors and suppliers of products to the entire country, as well as the lever for encouraging the formation and development of territorial economic cooperation teams.

It is necessary for the northeast region to concentrate on developing the coal exploitation industry, and the northwest and northern midland region to intensively expand the production of phosphate fertilizer, ferrous and nonferrous metals, rare earth and build hydroelectric projects. Meanwhile, the central highland region must develop hydroelectric projects and exploit bauxite.

Building up the mountainous regions is an undertaking of the people of all nationalities in these regions and also a common undertaking of the entire country. The state must help invest in the expansion of communications and transportation networks, development of energy, protection of the environment, construction of social infrastructures, and settlement of nomads and provide financial assistance for educating and training cadres from among people of various ethnic minority groups and send competent cadres to guide and help these regions.

Meanwhile, it is necessary to apply policies on preferential treatment in taxation, ensure the proportion of contribution to local budgets for credit service and use as operational funds in foreign countries, as well as for the payment wages and enforcement of policies on preferential treatment. Policies should also be formulated to protect the main products of the mountainous regions and satisfy the needs for essential commodities brought in from the lowland region.

The sea and continental shelf areas and off-shore islands must be specialized in the exploiting, raising, cultivating, and processing of maritime products, as well as in exploiting and processing oil, natural gas, and other minerals. They must also develop maritime transportation and various maritime production and service sectors and expand the tourism industry. It is necessary for a certain number of off-shore islands to develop the planting of industrial crops and protect and develop forests.

We must step up basic surveys and scientific research activities in order to comprehensively exploit the great potential of the maritime-based economy, send people out to engage in economic development on off-shore islands, gradually expand the fleet of vessels exploiting or processing maritime products on the high seas, and master all sea and continental shelf areas of our country.

All provinces along the coastline should develop their advantages and open their doors to the outside world so as to create favorable conditions for a rapid economic development in the hinterland. Meanwhile, orientations for production and construction work in these provinces must be worked out in such a way as to comply with the unfavorable conditions resulting from natural calamities, as well as to combine economic development and protection closely with the consolidation of national defense and security.

All cities and townships must serve as economic and cultural centers, especially industrial and trade centers, in either a small or large region. Orientations for urban development involve the formation of many medium and small centers, the rational redistribution of population, and the prevention of a massive migration of the people to big cities. To build and develop cities and townships, we must rely on funds solicited from many sources, especially from various economic units and the people.

The state takes care mainly of planning and making investment in the building of public infrastructure. Some localities play an important role to a large region and to the entire country, such as Hanoi, Haiphong, and the major ports in the north; Ho Chi Minh City, Bien Hoa, and Vung Tau-Con Dao in the south; and Danang and some other port-cities in Central Vietnam. These localities should attract investments from all other parts of the country and from overseas in order to quickly transform themselves into economic, cultural, and hi-tech centers, and the hubs of development of external economic relations and of activities aimed at promoting economic integration with other regions and prodding and inspiring them to develop. We must establish in these localities a number of zones with special administrative and economic status, namely export processing zones, to make it convenient for foreign countries to invest and do business. State investments in these localities must achieve the effect of creating new sources of capital accumulation to support other regions.

III. Structure of Economic Sectors

Within our multisectoral economy, ownership of the means of production assumes three basic forms: ownership by the entire people, collective ownership, and private ownership. On the basis of these three types of ownership, a great variety of forms of economic organizations have come into existence, among them a growing number of businesses combining several types of ownership. The state-operated economy comprises economic units whose capital wholly belongs to the state or in which the state owns a controlling share of the capital. In the state-operated economic sector, aside from a number of corporations and enterprises whose initial capital investment is fully provided by the state, the number of joint-stock enterprises in various forms will be constantly increased to attract more capital from many different sources, including those from overseas. The state-operated economy should be consolidated and developed in key branches and establishments to ensure that the state will be able to regulate and guide economic development in the right direction. We must actively restructure the state-operated economic sector and shift those establishments in which the form of state-operated economic activities are deemed no longer necessary to other forms of economic activities.

The collective economy is composed of economic units that are set up with capital and labor voluntarily contributed by workers and that are managed according to the priciples of democracy, equality, and mutual benefit. The prevalent organizational form of the collective economy is the cooperative. Cooperatives are developed in various branches and trades on different scales and at different levels of collectivization to suit the technical characteristics and managerial standards of the branches and trades concerned. There is a type of cooperative in which the key means of production and manpower organization are collectivized in all or most of the principal production process. There is a type of cooperative in which collective work is organized only in some essential jobs of the input-output service, while the main tasks of the production process are assumed by families of cooperative members as autonomous economic units.

Cooperatives can specialize in some trades or engage in general business combining several different branches and trades with a scale of organization and sphere of activity not restricted by the boundaries of administrative divisions. In the process of trading, cooperatives gradually build up their collective accumulation funds and collective material bases and ceaselessly increase their collective strength to complement and support the cooperative members' household economy. Some households may join different cooperatives and may leave them in accordance with the regulations.

In the field of agricultural production, along with giving the families of cooperative members the right to long-term use of farmland and enhancing their autonomous role, cooperatives should satisfactorily handle the collective tasks of rendering technical services, providing material suppplies, marketing products, securing credit, and so forth.

The private economy encompasses enterprises of capitalist owners, namely economic entities in which the major part of the capital comes from one or several private persons and which hire manpower for production or business purposes in the form of privately-run enterprises or private joint-stock companies, including economic entities with 100 percent of investment or a controlling share owned by foreign companies and individuals. In our country, privately-run companies and enterprises operate under state control and regulation, have relations of association at different levels with the state-operated economy, and are more or less marked by a state capitalist character. The state may contribute capital or lease property to these privately-run companies and enterprises, thereby supporting their operations while creating proper conditions for increasing state control and accumulation in these entities.

The individual and family economies include economic units and business operations which are based mainly on the funds and labor of each family, hold a very important position in many trades and sectors in rural areas and cities as well, have conditions for quickly and effectively developing their latent potentials in terms of funds, labor, and skills of each family and each citizen.

In rural areas, peasants' families are issued certificates authorizing them to use land and ricefields for a long time. Law specifically stipulates the rights of peasants' families to inherit land and ricefields and to transfer these rights. Individual and family economies can be developed into agricultural production units owning high amounts or percentages of agricultural products and commodities. The law does not restrict the hiring of labor to expand business.

In addition to the aforementioned economic components, there are other forms of economic organizations which do not belong totally to any economic components such as the ones combining several types of property under the forms of corporations, shareholders' enterprises and joint bilateral or multilateral ventures within the country or with foreign countries. No forms of ownership have been determined as main ones. Although the remnant economic forms of the clannish community system and the natural economy of nomads in some mountainous regions still exist, they will be transformed as a result of reorganizing families into production units with separate income and settled farming and life in order to gradually develop the commodity economy.

The state will implement consistently the multisectoral economic policy, encourage economic sectors to vigorously bring into play all their potentials to develop production and business legally, establish joint ventures and associations among various economic units and components, form large corporations and some business groups of national scale, and step by step join the regional and international business organizations.

Part Four: [as heard] Major Policies and Measures

I. On capital, Market and External Economic Relations

1. Policies and measures governing capital.

The implementation of strategic objectives depends partly and decisively on the self-procured capital and on the results of using funds. A national finance policy should be promulgated early to meet this need.

A. The capital-generating policy is geared toward creating incentives and conditions for all individuals and economic units to raise production and business efficiency, to practice thrift in production and consumption in order to increase capital accumulation, and to mobilize all resources, assets, idle money, labor and brains in society for economic development.

We should increase revenues of the state budget on the basis of fostering and developing all sources of income in the entire society, and strive to attract foreign investments. As for the domestic capital-generating policy, practicing thrift to enrich ourselves and the country as a whole is the fundamental means to create capital. In the business area, we should combine law, policies and extensive education together to make diligence and thrift in production and economical consumption become a way of life, thinking, and work for everybody.

We must form a social psychology of treasuring wealth and time, criticize and struggle against laziness, prodigality and wastefulness; and oppose waste and corruption which are causing great losses in such domains as planning, investment, designing and project construction; in the use of energy and raw materials; in the quality control of products, and in the importing of non-essential and luxurious goods. There must be a policy to guide consumption suitable to the country's economic capability.

We must create an environment and conditions for all physically fit people to have a job, and implement the rights and duties of all citizens capable of working. All economic units must perform adequate cost accounting, defray their own expenses, and make capital accumulation for development and contributions to the state. Each sector and each locality should develop the most profitable types of products and operations under various forms of economic organization and in those areas that can bring about the quickest results. At the same time, those units suffering losses must be positively dealt with. The optimal mobilization of all sources of funds among the people to develop the economy is a very important guideline.

Third Installment

BK0612084390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Dec 90

["Draft Strategy of Socioeconomic Stabilization and Development Up To the Year 2000"—third of five installments]

[Text] We must expand various forms of share-holding companies, issue various kinds of securities and bonds, and work toward establishing a stock market in order to tap all sources of capital and create a favorable environment for the easy transfer of profitable areas. It is necessary to develop a sufficiently strong banking system with a policy on interest rates commensurate with the regulated market mechanism in order to rationally organize capital and monetary markets and ensure the process of amassing capital in a dynamic, safe, and effective economy.

In the process of combating inflation, savings and credit interests have an effect on the preservation of capital in society as well as a attractive power, thus preventing the manifestations of misappropriation and abuse in the process of amassing and using capital.

The task of striving to ensure a budgetary balance is very difficult, especially in the years ahead. We must firmly grasp the basic guidelines of this issue, which involve expanding the sources of revenue, opposing shortfalls in tax collection, paring down expenditures, and obtaining loans under numerous forms when we deem it necessary.

We must reduce step by step the rate of inflation, striving to keep it below the 10-percent mark each year by 1995, while gradually increasing the proportion of national income to be turned into the state budget and setting aside a substantial part of our accumulation for investment by various economic units and the people themselves.

We must also improve the structure and mechanism of decentralization of budgetary revenue and expenditure and distinguish the boundaries between the state financial system and the business financial system, especially that of state enterprises.

It is necessary to modify the legal system concerning taxation to ensure revenue for the state budget and serve as the lever for regulating production and business, guiding consumption, and realizing social justice. We must educate the entire people on the obligation of tax payment and design an effective machinery and method of tax collection in accordance with the law.

It is necessary to accurately evaluate our national assets and enforce policies and laws ensuring that they are effectively managed, mobilized, and used. The state should rent or sell part of the assets and natural resources that have not yet been put into use or have been put into use with poor results in order to turn them into liquid capital that bears interest, thus creating a considerable source of capital. The amount of principal should be distributed rationally to local budgets at various levels and the purposes of the use of these budgets should be clearly stipulated. Steps must be taken to prevent certain enterprises or organs from selling public property to obtain money for their own use.

We must jump at every possibility and apply numerous forms of attracting foreign sources of capital, create a favorable environment and conditions for foreign companies to cooperate and establish joint ventures with various economic units in the country, or to invest wholly in a project or undertake the marketing of all or part of our products.

We should apply the form of allowing foreign countries to invest in the exploitation of some kinds of natural resources or in the construction of a number of infrastructures from which invested capital can be withdrawn. We should also encourage investment in the development of the processing industry and limit the exportation of crude and raw materials step by step.

It is necessary to go ahead with the construction processing and production centers while opening the door of our material and equipment market to a number of foreign companies to establish joint ventures or sale agents in our country in accordance with our state laws and regulations. We should allow some foreign banks to open their branches for operation in our country under the control of the state bank and work toward opening our banks' branches in a number of countries.

All economic units in the country can obtain loans from foreign countries for investment by themselves on the condition that they must ensure the repayment of these loans. Long-term loans from foreign governments and international finance organizations must be used mainly in the construction of infrastructures and some key economic projects. We should strive to seek nonrefundable aid from various foreign governments and international or nongovernmental organizations. We should also develop numerous convenient forms under which Vietnamese residing in foreign countries can help their relatives at home invest in economic development, or can contribute to building their homeland.

[Text] B. To use capital effectively, the state encourages investments in conformity with the strategy while striving to basically revise the investment mechanism. Economic units and the people can invest in business with their own money obtained from their savings, through shareholdings, and from loans. All projects—including new and large-scale projects—when operated should be shifted to the business accounting system and be put under the management of economic organizations.

The state may supply capital to the bank for granting loans to establishments with different rates of interest and different payment terms depending on each project. The state may also invest in the form of shareholding companies, while the law has stipulated measures to deal with bankruptcy cases.

Investment projects that the financial agencies at the central and local levels encourage are those of the infrastructure and public welfare projects. State-people joint ventures, if they concern production and business, should be carried out in the form of shareholding or buying government bonds. For public welfare projects, clear cut regulations should be formulated to avoid inconveniences, embezzlement, and waste.

2. The market policy: The market policy is aimed at accelerating the setting up of a unified market for trading at home and abroad. We must combine production with marketing and ensure effective state management over the market. To develop the market, first of all, we must expand the social division of labor in the direction of the commodity-based economy, stimulate requirements for production and consumption, increase the purchasing power of the people and economic units, especially that of the peasants.

The commodity- and market-based economy is composed of factors pertaining to production, merchandise, services, the labor force, capital, money, and assets. We should strive to eliminate the forms and vestiges of the subsidies system made through wages and taxation in supply and delivery work as well as in production and business. We must eliminate all forms of business aimed at disrupting the market. Localities throughout the country must implement the unified business law, apply a unified measurement system, and strictly observe the unified quality standard. We must strive to improve communications and transportation and strengthen market and trading networks of all economic components while paying attention to regions where exchanges of goods are difficult. We must enhance the marketing capability of economic units to combine production with the market and strive to develop forms of economic information services. Various trading establishments, especially the state-run ones, must satisfactorily carry out their function as representatives of the consumers so as to correctly place orders with the producers. They must strive to expand production and circulation of goods through contracts. State trading management agencies must provide guidance and assistance to producers and businessmen to enhance their marketing capability at home and abroad. We must strive to combine the domestic market with the world market, overcome difficulty and gain a better position in settling payments at the world market prices and in using foreign currencies in our foreign economic relations.

It is essential to regulate the management of foreign currencies. All foreign exchanges must be made through the bank and use of foreign currencies must be made in accordance with the set objectives. The bank sells and buys foreign currencies at the market rates. It must promote foreign currencies reserve and gradually set up the exchange rates reflecting the actual value of money at home and abroad. We must step by step create favorable conditions for the Vietnamese dong to be circulated in foreign countries, strive to diminish adverse effect caused by unfavorable changes in the world monetary market, and satisfactory monitor and predict the world market situation. We must create favorable conditions for domestic economic establishments to have direct contacts with foreign clients, expand trade relations through long-term contracts with producers, and strengthen their capability to take appropriate acts to catch up with world market fluctuations.

Fourth Installment

BK0612145390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 3 Dec 90

["Draft Strategy of Socioeconomic Stabilization and Development Up to the Year 2000"—fourth of five installments"]

[Text] 3. External economic policy: We must broaden external economic relations and enhance their efficiency; exploit the needs, interests, and capabilities of each foreign customer; and take advantage of the competition between nations and economic powers to build an increasingly stable position for our country in the world market. In our external economic relations, we should pay attention to both social and economic effects, both immediate and long-term interests. We must diversify and multilateralize our external economic relations; quickly increase the value of our export and improve its structure in increasing the quantity of processed products and sub-contracted goods, reducing unprocessed products, turning out of a number of principal commodities for relatively stable markets worth hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars per year, such as oil, oil-derivatives, rice, rubber, coffee, tea, sub- contracted goods, sea products, natural silk, and so forth. By the year 2000, the total value of our exports is to have increased approximately fivefold as compared with 1990.

The import structure must effectively serve production development and technological renovation, simultaneously protect and stimulate domestic production, and improve the quality and competitiveness of our goods. We should restrict the import of non-essential goods and resolutely fight smuggling. We should strive to obtain capital, technology, and managerial experience from many different sources and in many different forms. We should develop the service industry in many forms, especially tourism, to collect foreign exchange; make every effort to broaden our foreign markets, maintain and expand our foothold in our traditional markets, and make inroads into new ones. We should continue to consolidate and broaden economic relations with the Soviet Union, Laos, Cambodia, Cuba, and East European countries; restore and broaden economic relations with China; and further broaden economic and market relations with India. We should take the initiative in establishing economic and market relations with Northeast and Southeast Asia and combine the efforts to solve regional economic and environment protection problems.

We should start a new posture for economic ties with the developed capitalist countries, focussing our attention on West and North European countries, and developing countries. We should fully discharge the obligations and exert the rights of our country as a member of international organizations, and join other international organizations and economic groupings when necessary and possible. We should foster trust, improve our attractiveness, and create a convenient environment to get foreigners for invesment and joint ventures in our country. We should build a uniform system of regulations and train a contingent of cadres for external economic relations in accordance with new requirements.

II. On Population, Employment and Labor Pay, Health Protection, and Social Security

1. Population policy: We should uniformly implement the population strategy in all three aspects of population size, population structure, and population distribution to reduce population growth rate to below 1.8 percent by the year 2000. We should make family planning a broad and far-reaching social movement for both men and women on the basis of enhancing the people's level of education, developing culture, and building a healthy lifestyle along with applying medical measures, paying due attention to those localities and stratas of people still having high birth rates.

Voluntary participation in the family planning movement and the interests of those practicing birth control must be ensured and closely managed by the administration and mass organizations at all levels. We should actively strive for and effectively use financial aid from the United Nations and other international organizations. At the same time, the state should make suffient supplemental investment for the implementation of the family planning movement and associate it with mother and infant healthcare and with the emancipation of women.

A masterplan for population distribution must be formulated for various territorial divisions in conformity with the changing economic structure, with a rational urbanization program, and with the development of economic zones.

2. Policy and Measures Regarding Employment and Labor Pay.

Resolving employment problems and making maximum use of all manpower in society constitute an important goal of the strategy and also the first priorities of the economic, industrial, and investment structures. The law guarantees the people's right to be the master of their work abilities and also encourages and creates conditions for the people to look for or create jobs for themselves and others in all economic sectors. A person of working age should have an occupation and is encouraged to learn how to handle different jobs; jobs that generate incomes for the laboring people and that are useful for the society all merit respect.

Renovate the policies governing places of residence and family registration; grant work permits to people of working age; replace the lifetime payroll system with the payroll system based on labor contract; and formulate an incentive policy toward people on work assignment in localities or economic sectors with difficult working and living conditions.

The settlement of future employment problems should be based on the following basic guideline:

As far as the countryside is concerned, broaden labor distribution through intensive cultivation; multicropping; maximum use of cultivated land; and promotion of animal husbandry, hill-and forest-based economy, aquaculture, industrial products processing, and small industrial and handicraft development.

Regarding the urban areas, vigorously accelerate industrial and small industrial development, carry out city building and management, and expand the service industries in support of production and people's daily lives.

Concentrate manpower and capital on exploiting 10 million hectares of unused land and bare hills, on expanding the sea-based economy, and on exploiting the potential of our country's coastal areas and continental shelves.

Reserve manpower for the construction of socioeconomic infrastructures, export manpower in various forms, and guarantee socioeconomic efficiency.

Attach importance to the role of the household economy in resolving employment problems.

In addition to the help of their relatives and the society, people should remain active in their job searches. The state shall provide help in terms of mechanisms, policies, and work environments as well as job training facilities.

Devise a national job development program and concentrate efforts on formulating plans for developing a number of key sectors and areas of operations capable of attracting a substantial part of the work force and generating jobs like afforestation, tea planting, sericulture, rubber cultivation, manufacturing of export products under contract, and service industries.

Remuneration should be based on labor productivity, production and business efficiency, and work performance. Incomes should not exceed the fruit of labor and should be partially reserved for national construction.

Guarantee rational relations between the wages and incomes set by the various occupations and professions so that they correspond with the values of products and correctly reflect the progressive step increase system in effect in the society.

The state is to set the minimum wage and encourage wage increases based on the fruit of labor.

Reform the system of salaries in the state sector in close coordination with efforts to reorganize the state apparatus.

Adjust personnel organization in accordance with the new mechanism.

Salaries must be fair enough so workers can make up for physical strength depreciation due to hard work.

Monetize salaries and turn all supplies in kind as salary into salary payment in cash, combat egalitarianism, fill the gap created by the difference between minimum and maximum wages, really encourage the improvement of labor productivity and professional expertise, and appreciate people's talents and skills.

International Conference on Environment Opens

Vo Nguyen Giap Gives Speech

BK0312153190 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 3—A three-day international conference on environment and sustainable development was opened here today jointly by the Vietnam State Commission for Sciences and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) office in Hanoi.

It was attended by more than 200 delegates, including 70 from 30 countries and various international as well as non-governmental organizations such as UNDP, Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA), International Union for Conservation and Natural Resources (IUCN), Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

After the opening speech delivered by Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Nguyen Giap, the UNDP, SIDA and IUCN representatives took the floor pointing to the need to promote the environmental protection and support activities in Vietnam as well as the world over.

Vice Chairman of the State Commission for Sciences Le Qui An read a report on the situation of Vietnam's environment and national environment action plan.

Do Muoi Addresses Conference

BK0612084290 Hanoi VNA in English 0734 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec 6—An international conference on environment and sustainable development under the sponsorship of the Vietnam State Commission for Sciences and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was closed here on December 6 after three days' working.

Addressing the conference on December 5 afternoon, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi expressed the Vietnamese Government and people's sincere thanks to various international, regional and non-governmental organizations and foreign countries which have provided effective and substantial assistance for the protection of the environment in Vietnam.

About 200 participants, nearly 70 of them foreigners, discussed seven action areas in two groups and agreed on 35 recommendations related to the priorities and emphases in the contents of the national action plan on environment and sustainable development prepared by the State Commission for Sciences with assistance from the UNDP, the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA), the United Nations Environment

Programme (UNEP) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

At a press conference held right after the closing session, Dang Huu, chairman of the sponsoring commission, and David Smith, UNDP resident representative, expressed their hope that this successful conference draw more attention from the international and regional organisations and foreign countries to the problem of environment protection in Vietnam.

Leader Greets Cuban Counterparts on Anniversary

BK0112155690 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 1—Vietnamese leaders have sent a warmest greetings to their Cuban counterparts on the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and Cuba (Dec. 2nd).

The joint message was sent by Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; Vo Chi Cong, president of the State Council; Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, to Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [CPC] and president of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba; and Juan Escalona Reguera, president of the National Assembly of the People's Power. It says:

"The Vietnamese people are convinced that the Cuban people under the leadership of the CPC headed by President Fidel Castro Ruz will overcome all difficulties and challenges to make new and ever-bigger achievements in building and defending Socialist Cuba."

Meeting Marks Anniversary

BK0612112590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Dec 90

[Text] Last night on 2 December at the Hanoi City Theater, the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, Federated Associations for Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship, the Vietnam-Cuba Friendship Association, Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Tourism, and the Vietnam Communist Party Committee in Hanoi held a grand meeting to mark the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Vietnam-Cuba diplomatic relations.

On the Vietnamese sides, Comrades Dong Sy Nguyen, member of the Party Political Bureau, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Thi Dinh, vice-chairman of the Council of State, president of the Vietnam-Cuba Friendship Association; representatives of the central government offices; central mass organizations in Hanoi; and representatives of Hanoi citizens attended the meeting.

On the Cuban sides Comrades Roberto Robaina, alternate member of the party Political Bureau, first secretary of the Cuba Young Communist Union, and the head of the Cuban delegation visiting Vietnam; Comrade Armando Saucedo, the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Vietnam; attaches; councillors; and staff of the Cuban Embassy attended.

After the opening speech of Comrade Dong Sy Nguyen, Comrade Nguyen Thi Dinh confirmed in her speech the great meaning in the establishment of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and Cuba thirty years ago, on 2 December 1960. She stressed that at present the solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between Vietnam and Cuba have moved to a new stage. The agreements on commercial, economic, cultural, scientific, educational, and medical cooperation between the two countries have showed up clearly the development of the deep solidarity tradition of the two parties, two peoples.

In his speech, Comrade Armando Saucedo stressed that the establishment of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and Cuba marked the solidarity and friendship between the two countries. These were refined in the common struggle against imperialism and have been strengthened in the past years through a close and useful cooperation.

EEC Delegation Visits Vietnam

BK0512164990 Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec 5—A delegation of the European Economic Community (EEC) led by Endymion Wilkinson, head of the EEC's Southeast Asia Department, paid a working visit to Vietnam from December 1-5.

While here, the delegation was received by Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai. It had working session with a Vietnamese delegation led by Le Tho, head of the Consular Department of the Foreign Ministry. The two sides signed an agreement on the EEC's financial programme for the voluntary repatriation and reunion of the illegal Vietnamese emigrants from regional countries.

The programme's first stage is to be implemented in six months and the following stages will be conducted in two and a half years.

Leaders Greet Thai King on National Day

BK0612105590 Hanoi International Service in Thai 1130 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] On 4 December, Chairman of the Council of State of Vietnam Vo Chi Cong sent a telegram greeting His Majesty the King Phumiphon Adunyadet of the Kingdom of Thailand on his majesty's 63d birthday and the Thai National Day on 5 December. The chairman of the Council of State of Vietnam expressed his best wishes and desire that relations between Vietnam and Thailand be further strengthened and developed.

Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi also sent a greetings telegram on the same occasion to the Thai prime minister, His Excellency General Chatchai Chunhawan. The telegram believes that with the efforts of both countries, friendly relations and cooperation between Vietnam and Thailand will be continuously strengthened and developed in the interests of the people of both countries, and of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

On the same occasion, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach also sent a greetings telegram to Thai Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan.

Dao Duy Tung Attends Su That Celebration

BK0612093390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] This morning in Hanoi, Su That Publishing House celebrated the 45th anniversary of its founding day. Comrade Dao Duy Tung—member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee—and many leading comrades of government offices, press agencies, publishing houses, book publication companies, as well as many retired staff and collaborators with the publishing house, attended the celebration and shared the joy of the cadres, editors, and staff of Su That Publishing House.

Vietnam Investment Bank Holds Conference

BK0312055490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] On 27 and 28 November, Vietnam Investment and Development Bank held a conference of directors to start its organization and operation in accordance with new regulations. Comrade Tran Duc Luong, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers attended and addressed the conference.

Recently, in addition to allocating funds to various projects receiving budgetary investments, Vietnam Investment and Construction Bank, the predecessor of the current Vietnam Investment and Development Bank, has issued loans for in-depth investment in various economic organizations, initially overcoming the practice of subsidizing investment in capital construction.

The bank detachments have safely preserved sources of loans. Over the past 10 months the banking sector has recovered 10 billion dong or more, asserting the effectiveness of the new working method along the lines of credits and investments. In the future the bank will continue this method to renovate its operations.

Australia

Evans Views Possibility of Iraq Hostage Release

BK0712102290 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0803 GMT 7 Dec 90

[From the "International Report" Program]

[Text] Australia's foreign affairs minister, Senator Gareth Evans, has welcomed the likely release of all hostages being held in Iraq but he adds that it is not yet clear whether Baghdad will apply any conditions to the release nor is it clear why Saddam Husayn has decided to release the hostages now. Tony Hastings reports from Canberra.

[Begin recording] [Hastings] To begin with, Senator Evans outlined the facts as the Australian Government understands them.

[Evans] The news essentially is good but not yet the subject of completely official confirmation. I guess we wanted to have full clarification until the time the national assembly meets, which is around 7 o'clock this evening Australian time. But it does seem as though all the hostages are to be released, that is to say with some 3,000 Westerners and Japanese, some 4,000 other Eastern European and other countries, some 25 countries in all.

There may be some conditions still to be [words indistinct] for example waiting for those who are there on a contractual basis, we do not know about that. There was a report on CNN a few minutes ago suggesting that there will be no distinction (?drawn up) between most people in Iraq and Kuwait, which was something that was worrying us and furthermore there has just been an announcement that people can begin applying for exit visas as from Friday morning Iraq time which is this afternoon, this evening, Australian time, so it does seem as well that the exercise is well under way.

[Hastings] Senator Evans said an Australian Air Force plane is on standby to fly out the Australian hostages although it is not yet clear when that will happen, but the senator added that the release of the hostages will fill only part of the United Nations list of demands and only a complete withdrawal from Kuwait will be satisfactory. [end recording]

Fiji

Ratu Mara: New Zealand Military Aid Not Asked

BK2811082990 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Text] Fiji's interim prime minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, has denied that he asked New Zealand to resume military assistance to his country during talks with New Zealand's deputy prime minister, Mr. McKinnon, in Auckland last Saturday [24 November]. In a statement issued in Suva, Ratu Mara said that during the meeting Mr. McKinnon had raised with him the possibility of recommencing surveillance flights over Fiji's exclusive economic zone by New Zealand aircraft.

The statement said in response Ratu Mara said such flights could only be undertaken if defense cooperation arrangements were formally resumed. Therefore, the statement added, no request was made for the resumption of military assistance.

Last Saturday, Ratu Mara was quoted as telling a news conference in Auckland after the talks that Fiji was hoping that New Zealand would resume training Fiji soldiers.

Mr. McKinnon was quoted as saying New Zealand would prefer to deal with the resumption of military ties at the time of free elections in Fiji, scheduled for next year.